

# Mecklenburg County

## North Carolina

### Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our communities and our State; and

**WHEREAS**, in Mecklenburg County there are 572 children and youth in foster care being provided with a safe, secure and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster family; and

**WHEREAS**, all young people in foster care need a meaningful connection to a caring adult who becomes a supportive and lasting presence in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, foster, kinship and adoptive families, who open their home and hearts and support children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect thereby launching young people into successful adulthood; and

**WHEREAS**, the emotional pain and trauma suffered by children who are abused and neglected often troubles them throughout their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster care families; and

**WHEREAS**, there are numerous individuals and public and private organizations who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents, and the foster care "system" is only as good as those who choose to be a part of it:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim May 2019 as

#### **"FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH"**

in Mecklenburg County and urges all citizens to take the time to celebrate and thank those who work with our children and youth. It is also a time to focus on the foster children who wait in foster homes for permanent adoptive families, as well as those children who are turning 18 and aging out of the foster care "system".

**This 7th day of May 2019.**

*George Dunlap*

George Dunlap, Chair  
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

