

# Mecklenburg County

## North Carolina

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, this year during the month of September, Kinship Care Month is observed, as residents of Mecklenburg County are proud to recognize children, grandparents, and other relatives who raise them in kinship care who ensure their safety, promote their well-being, and establish a stable household for these young people to thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally more than 2.7 million children are living with grandparents, other relatives, and fictive kin in kinship care of which 85,000 of these young people reside in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens of Mecklenburg County join to honor children residing in urban, rural, and suburban households in Mecklenburg County who through the unconditional support of their kin, have successfully addressed the emotional trauma of being separated from their parents; and

**WHEREAS**, the public becomes increasingly aware of the challenges faced by children and their kinship caregivers to work in partnership with the education, legal, social services, mental health, justice, and other systems to access services that can enable kinship youth to flourish in all facets of their life; and

**WHEREAS**, children will live within a kinship family sometime during their childhood, kinship care provides the best opportunity to retain the child's cultural heritage and community ties.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim September 2023 as

### "NATIONAL KINSHIP CARE MONTH"

in Mecklenburg County and urges all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, businesses, and others to celebrate kinship families that offer safety, permanency, and well-being for children who are unable to remain with their birth parents.

**This the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023**



*George Dunlap*

George Dunlap, Chair  
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners