

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

RECOGNIZING TOGETHER FOR RESILIENT YOUTH (TRY) FOR ITS LEADERSHIP IN  
SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

- WHEREAS,** Together for Resilient Youth (TRY), founded in Durham County in 2000, has worked tirelessly to prevent substance misuse and promote resilience among youth, families, and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** since 2007, TRY has partnered with Durham Public Schools and the broader community to reach more than 3,700 students annually through assemblies, classroom engagement, and community-based programming; and
- WHEREAS,** TRY has prioritized prevention of opioid overdose and alcohol misuse, particularly among Black communities disproportionately impacted by these public health crises; and
- WHEREAS,** since 2015, TRY has supplied naloxone to all School Resource Officers in middle and high schools, ensuring rapid overdose response capacity in youth-centered spaces, until such time as naloxone became available directly through the County; and
- WHEREAS,** TRY purchased and installed medication drop boxes and has participated in Operation Medicine Drop since its inception, supporting the safe disposal of unused prescriptions and reducing access to opioids in homes; and
- WHEREAS,** between 2020 and 2025, TRY directly engaged over 50,000 individuals through training, support services, and coalition work, and reached an additional 23,440 through speaking engagements across North Carolina and the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** TRY’s Health Ambassador Program has trained and empowered 51 community members—including youth, young adults, adults, and seniors—resulting in confirmed lifesaving interventions and the distribution of more than 1,500 naloxone kits to date June to present; and
- WHEREAS,** TRY has developed and disseminated prevention resources including the Opioid Misuse and Overdose Prevention Guide, the Resilient Recovery Community Training Guide, Marijuana and Youth Mental Health curriculum, Vaping Prevention Training, and the LIFT Program for students ages 9–17 and separately for youth in the juvenile justice system; and
- WHEREAS,** TRY’s work embodies the values of prevention, dignity, equity, and legacy, ensuring that families and communities—especially those most impacted—are equipped with knowledge, resources, and resilience.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we, the members of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize Together for Resilient Youth (TRY) for its outstanding leadership in substance use prevention, its commitment to equity and community resilience, and its enduring impact on the lives of thousands of residents across Durham County, North Carolina, and the nation.

This the 8<sup>th</sup> day of July 2025.

Dr. Mike Lee, Chair

Nida Allam, Vice Chair

Michelle Burton, Commissioner

Wendy Jacobs, Commissioner

Stephen Valentine, Commissioner

