

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH | 2024**

**WHEREAS,** the County of Durham recognizes the importance of giving permanent, safe and loving families in support of children through adoption; and

**WHEREAS,** every child deserves the opportunity to grow up in a loving, stable home and adoption is one way to build a family; and

**WHEREAS,** caring adults can make all the difference in the lives of young people, sibling groups, children with special needs, and teenagers; and

**WHEREAS,** 201 children in Durham County are in foster care and of that total number 15 children are legally able to be adopted and waiting for permanent families; and

**WHEREAS,** since November 2023 Durham County has successfully matched families for children waiting to result in a total of 51 finalized adoptions, including 8 sibling groups and 3 older youth; and

**WHEREAS,** this effort along with similar celebrations in all 50 states around the country will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption.

**NOW THEREFORE,** I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of November 2024 as

**“NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH”**

in Durham County. We commend this observance to our citizens and urge all citizens to join in raising awareness on behalf of the 15 children in Durham County who are waiting for a loving family. We further encourage communities, businesses, schools, faith-based organizations and families to “answer the call” and honor the special needs of Durham County’s children in hopes of securing permanent family connections regardless of race, age, gender, healthy, emotional or behavioral condition and past distress.

This the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024

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Nida Allam, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

