

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Proclamation

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH | 2018

WHEREAS, to promote awareness of positive mental health, well-being and development for all children, youth and young adults ages birth through 26 years in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the leadership in Durham, North Carolina recognizes that mental health needs and treatment be on par with medical needs and treatment; and

WHEREAS, families shall not feel stigma and shame to seek treatment for their children and youth and be able to discuss openly their need for help without public retribution; and

WHEREAS, children's mental health promotion needs to be available to everyone. Education on the identification and use of child strengths to support success and promote mental health as well as anti-stigma, inclusion and social skills education should be available to all citizens of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, available school based mental health programs and positive behavior, interventions and supports should be considered as best practice, and be encouraged to be practiced in every Durham, North Carolina public school; and

WHEREAS, children are recognized for having unique needs for recovery of mental health, emotional, behavioral and substance use issues, and not being combined with the adult mental health population for treatment; and

WHEREAS, effective mental health treatment services to strengthen families, youth leadership development and family partner/peer supports results in children and youth overcoming trauma, becoming successful and contributing Durham, North Carolina citizens in a safe environment in their homes, schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, Durham County Commissioners, North Carolina Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council, National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, Alliance Behavioral Healthcare, NC Families United, the NC State Children's Collaborative and the families, NAMI-NC, Public Health, Department of Social Services, all medical and legal entities, and communities who have children, youth and young adults struggling with emotional and behavioral health issues join to recognize Children's Mental Health Awareness month and safety; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 2018 as

"CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH"

in Durham County, and commend its observance to our citizens

This the 23rd day of April, 2018.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

