

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Proclamation*

**TOGETHER FOR RESILIENT YOUTH (TRY) VIOLENCE PREVENTION | 2019**

**WHEREAS,** Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) experienced early in life can lead to a greater risk for committing violence against peers, bullying, teen dating violence and child abuse, elder abuse, intimate partner violence and sexual violence later in life; and

**WHEREAS,** children who are victims of abuse/neglect are more likely to exhibit antisocial behaviors, suffer from anxiety and depression, encounter challenges in school and abuse drugs or alcohol; and

**WHEREAS,** 28 percent of high school students reported feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing usual activities; and

**WHEREAS,** 11 percent of high school students in Durham reported that they did not go to school at least once in the past month because they felt unsafe at school or going to or from school, 51 percent of high school students have seen other students being bullied and 37 percent of high school students report gang activity in school; and

**WHEREAS,** people living in low resource communities experience more crime, higher stress levels, less access to resources, higher rates of chronic disease and higher rates of early death; and

**WHEREAS,** strategies applied at the community, relationship and individual levels that include resilience as an antidote to ACEs and that address historical trauma and institutional racism can help prevent multiple forms of violence.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby call upon all citizens to participate in this Call to Action and join Together for Resilient Youth (TRY) in the Strive to Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere (STRYVE) initiative.

This 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019.

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

