



WHEREAS, for more than a century, Social Workers have worked to improve human well-being, advocate for justice, and support everyone's basic needs, and,

WHEREAS, the 2026 theme, "***Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform.***" shines a light on the resolute spirit of Social Workers who transform lives while bringing hope, healing, and justice to the communities they serve - especially in times of profound change and challenges; and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers are on the frontlines defending vulnerable populations, including those facing discrimination or poverty, while uplifting vital social safety net programs and ensuring the rights of everyone, and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers assist those navigating trauma, grief, and systemic biases, and help people recover from natural disasters, public health crises, and other issues while transforming their lives in encouraging ways, and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers are at the forefront of pressing issues our nation is addressing, including increased needs for mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and increased economic and political division; and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers help protect millions of children and adults from abuse and neglect, provide services and support, which helps strengthen families that are under stress, and help create new families through adoption, and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers advocate for human rights, and advancing fair policies for all persons by obliterating barriers that prevent individuals, and families from thriving

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED in recognition of the critical contributions made by Gaston County's Social Workers, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims the month of March 2026 as

National Social Work Month

and calls upon all citizens to join in the celebration and support of the Social Work Profession.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Jim Bailey

Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

Cathy Cloninger

Tom Keigher

Allen R. Fraley

Scott Shehan

To be Adopted the 24th Day of March 2026



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

DHHS - Social Services Division

Board Action

File # 26-093

Commissioner Keigher - DHHS - Social Services Division - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of March 2026 as *National Social Work Month*

STAFF CONTACT

Shannon Myers - Social Services Director - 704-862-7930

BACKGROUND

To Proclaim March 2026 as National Social Work Month

ATTACHMENTS

Proclamation

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows.

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	JBailey	CBrown	CCloninger	AFraley	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2026-087	03/24/2026	BH	TK	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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