



WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are a serious problem affecting every aspect of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and,

WHEREAS, all children have the right to grow up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment free from abuse and neglect; and,

WHEREAS, children are the key to our community's future success, prosperity, and enriched quality of life and while children are our most valuable resource, they are also our most vulnerable; and,

WHEREAS, most child abuse cases arise from situations and conditions that are preventable in an engaged, aware, and supportive community; and,

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for its victims; and,

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention strategies are created, nurtured, and implemented through partnerships with the Gaston County Department of Social Services, The Lighthouse Children's Advocacy Center, and local law enforcement; and,

WHEREAS, The Lighthouse Children's Advocacy Center served 452 child victims of abuse or neglect in 2021; and,

WHEREAS, one in ten children will be victims of sexual abuse before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday; and,

WHEREAS, over 90% of perpetrators of child sexual abuse are someone known by the child and/or family; and,

WHEREAS, pinwheels are the national symbol for child abuse prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims the month of April 2022 as

### **Child Abuse Prevention Month**

and calls upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders, and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to support families, thereby strengthening the community in which we live.

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Chad Brown, Chairman

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Allen R. Fraley

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Tom Keigher

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Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

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Tracy L. Philbeck

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Kim Johnson

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Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 26<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2022



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## Hope United Survivor Network Board Action

File #: 22-132

Commissioner Brown - Hope United Survivor Network - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of April 2022 as **Child Abuse Prevention Month** in Gaston County

### STAFF CONTACT

Tara Joyner - Hope United Survivor Network

### BACKGROUND

To proclaim the month of April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention 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	CBrown	AFraley	BHovis	KJohnson	TKeigher	JPhilbeck	RWorley	Vote
2022-126	04/26/2022	TP	TK	A	AB	A	AB	A	A	A	U

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