



- WHEREAS, the Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative (PTACC) is the national and global voice of the field of deflection; and,
- WHEREAS, the PTACC National Leadership Council voted to designate the 3rd week of July as National Deflection Week (NDW), to be held annually in every nation; and,
- WHEREAS, there are now approximately 1,600 deflection sites in the United States, including in Gaston County through the Gaston County LEAD initiative; and,
- WHEREAS, deflection is an important element in the 2024 Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) US National Drug Control Strategy to combat our nation's opioid and fentanyl epidemic; and,
- WHEREAS, deflection is an early, upstream approach that does not wait for nor need an arrest, overdose, or crisis situation before taking action to help people facing the challenge of drug misuse or mental health disorders; and,
- WHEREAS, deflection continues to grow rapidly as a community-led, public safety and public health strategy that offers to police and communities alike a third option instead of arrest or inaction when it is clear that a person needs help and support; and,
- WHEREAS, deflection creates six distinct pathways for people to be rapidly connected to treatment, housing, and services in order to achieve recovery; and,
- WHEREAS, deflection saves public dollars, reduces drug-related property crime, and reduces overdose deaths.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim the week of July 14-20, 2024 as

National Deflection Week

in Gaston County.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Cathy Cloninger

Kim Johnson

Allen R. Fraley

Tom Keigher

Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 23rd Day of July 2024