



- WHEREAS, children are vital to the county's success and represent the potential prosperity of our community as they are our most valuable asset; and,
- WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility affecting both the current and future quality of life for Gaston County; and,
- WHEREAS, children of our community deserve to have safe, stable, nurturing homes which are free from abuse such as physical, sexual, emotional and trauma; and,
- WHEREAS, communities that provide professionals who address parents' needs by supporting them with education and resources so they are better able to cope with stress so they may nurture their children to their full potential; and,
- WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, schools, health care providers law enforcement, faith communities, municipal departments, elected leaders, nonprofits as well as civic and business organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims April 2017 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

in Gaston County and urges its citizens to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the community in which we live.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Allen R. Fraley

Tom Keigher

Donald J. Grant, Jr.

Tracy L. Philbeck

Bob Hovis

Ronald E. Worley, Vice-Chairman

To be Adopted the 28th Day of March 2017