



- WHEREAS, each of us have a responsibility as individuals, neighbors, communities and citizens of Gaston County to recognize that all children need love, support, and a safe and secure place to call home; and,
- WHEREAS, for children who are born into circumstances that cannot meet their ongoing needs, adoption provides healthy and loving families and environments, which sustain children as they grow into confident and successful adults; and,
- WHEREAS, families who choose the life-changing path of adoption make a meaningful and lasting difference in the lives of some of the most vulnerable children and young people in our society; and,
- WHEREAS, not all children waiting to be adopted are newborns; many older youth who live in foster care also desire to be adopted; and,
- WHEREAS, during Adoption Awareness Month, we celebrate all those adults and families who have welcomed a child into their hearts and into their homes through adoption, and we express our profound appreciation for all who help make adoptions possible; and,
- WHEREAS, the collaboration of both public and private adoption agencies along with community agencies, religious organizations, businesses, and others should be recognized for their commitment to the needs of children throughout Gaston County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims the month of November 2023 as

## **ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH**

and in honor of this event, we encourage citizens, community agencies, the faith community, local businesses, and others to celebrate adoption, honor these families, and turn attention to those children whose lives would be forever changed through the power of adoption. Together, we can work to support, sustain and secure permanent, loving homes for each and every child in Gaston County.

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Chad Brown, Chairman

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Cathy Cloninger

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Kim Johnson

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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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Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of October 2023