



WHEREAS, the Social Work Profession for decades has been dedicated to improving human well-being and enhancing the basic needs of all people – especially the most vulnerable among us particularly during the global pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, this year’s Social Work Month theme, “**The Time is Right for Social Work**,” workers rose to meet the most pressing challenges of all of our lifetimes, the COVID-19 pandemic, even as our nation continues to grapple with systemic racism, economic inequality, global warming, and other crises; and,

WHEREAS, the Social Work profession, more than many other professions, has expansive boundaries that allow Social Workers to work in a variety of settings including: schools, centers for veterans, the military, hospitals, mental health centers, corporations, and local, state, and federal government; and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers have continued to push for changes that have made our society a better place to live, including improved workplace safety and social safety net programs that help ameliorate poverty, hunger, and homelessness; and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers have helped this nation live up to its values by successfully advocating for equal rights for all, through diversity, equity and inclusion efforts that respect self-determination, freedom of religion, access to education and, employment initiatives to provide pathways for self-sufficiency; and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers stand ready and have the expertise to help our nation handle some of its most pressing issues, including, improved health care and mental health care for all; immigration reform; income equality and the environmental impact of climate change; and,

WHEREAS, Social Workers work in all facets of our society to meet people no matter their circumstance and empower them to live to their fullest potential.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED in recognition of the numerous contributions made by Gaston County’s Social Workers, the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims the month of March 2022 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

Allen R. Fraley

Tom Keigher

Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

Tracy L. Philbeck

Kim Johnson

Ronald E. Worley