



**WHEREAS,** the primary mission of the Social Work profession is to enhance well-being and help meet the basic needs of all people, especially the most vulnerable in society, through work in schools, social service agencies, health and mental health care facilities, and communities. Social Workers daily embody this year's Social Work Month theme, "***Forging Solutions Out of Challenges,***" by helping individuals, communities and the larger society tackle and solve issues that confront them; and,

**WHEREAS,** Social Workers are the largest group of mental health care providers in the United States and daily work to help people overcome depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and other disorders so they can lead more fulfilling lives. Child, family and school Social Workers across Gaston County provide assistance to improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families; and,

**WHEREAS,** Social Workers help protects children, help children find loving homes and create new families through adoption, work in schools to foster future generations by ensuring students' reach their full academic and personal potential, and work with older adults and their families to improve their quality of life and ability to live independently as long as possible and get access to quality mental health and health care.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners, in recognition of the valuable contributions made by Gaston County's Social Workers, proclaims the month of March 2016 as

### **PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH**

in Gaston County and calls upon all citizens to join with the National Association of Social Workers and the Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services in celebration and support of the Social Work profession.

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Tom Keigher, Chairman

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Chad Brown

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Tracy L. Philbeck

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Joe D. Carpenter

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Mickey Price

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Allen R. Fraley

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Jason Williams, Vice-Chairman