



- WHEREAS, the National Coalition for the Homeless and National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness have sponsored National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week since 1975; and the Gaston Lincoln Cleveland Continuum of Care is actively working to end hunger and homelessness in Gaston County; and the Gaston County Board of Commissioners established an Intergovernmental and Interagency Task Force on Homelessness in Gaston County in 2021; and,
- WHEREAS, the purpose of the proclamation is to educate the public about the many reasons people are hungry and homeless including poverty, unemployment, domestic violence, mental and physical health complications, and the shortage of affordable housing; and to encourage support for homeless assistance service providers as well as community service opportunities for citizens, students and school service organizations; and,
- WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the plight of vulnerable populations; and produced new challenges for service providers, who have demonstrated tremendous resiliency as they continue to work to end hunger and homelessness; and,
- WHEREAS, there are many organizations and agencies committed to sheltering, providing supportive services as well as meals and food supplies to people experiencing homelessness in Gaston County and working collaboratively through the Gaston Lincoln Cleveland Continuum of Care to end homelessness; and,
- WHEREAS, the Gaston County Commissioners recognize that hunger and homelessness continues to be a fundamental problem for many individuals and families in Gaston County; and,
- WHEREAS, the intent of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is consistent with the activities of the Gaston Lincoln Cleveland Continuum of Care and the Intergovernmental and Interagency Task Force on Homelessness in Gaston County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims November 13-21, 2021 as

HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

and encourages all citizens to recognize that many people do not have housing and need support from citizens, and private/public nonprofit service entities.

Tom Keigher, Chairman

Chad Brown

Kim Johnson

Allen R. Fraley, Vice-Chairman

Tracy L. Philbeck

Bob Hovis

Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted this 9th Day of November 2021