



- WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts women, men, and children of every age, background, and belief with nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men in the United States having suffered severe physical violence by an intimate partner; and,
- WHEREAS, while physical marks may often be the most obvious signs of harm caused by domestic violence, the true extent of the pain goes much deeper; and,
- WHEREAS, victims not only face abuse, but often find themselves left with significant financial insecurity and children who witness domestic violence often experience lifelong trauma; and,
- WHEREAS, survivors and their children benefit from an increase in trauma informed support, clinical services and trauma sensitive environments; and,
- WHEREAS, with the assistance of Gaston County, the Department of Health and Human Services and many community volunteers and supporters, The Cathy Mabry Cloninger Center has continued to meet the needs of domestic violence victims through housing, counseling, advocacy, education and support; and,
- WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence and show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims October 2019 as

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

and urge all citizens of Gaston County to speak out against domestic violence and support local efforts to assist victims of these crimes in finding the help and healing they need.

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Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman

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Chad Brown, Vice-Chairman

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Bob Hovis

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Jack B. Brown

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Tom Keigher

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Allen R. Fraley

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Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of September 2019