



WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control estimated 90,237 overdose deaths in the United States of America over the 12-month period ending September, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County does affirm and acknowledge the harm and hardship caused by drug overdose; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize the purpose of International Overdose Awareness Day as remembering loved ones lost to overdose and ending the stigma of drug-related deaths; and,

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the more than 3,499 North Carolina residents who lost their lives to overdose in 2020 together with the countless more affected forever; and,

WHEREAS, we resolve to continue our part in reducing the toll of overdose in our community, which claimed the lives of more than 48 Gaston County residents in 2021 and has already claimed 19 lives in the first half of 2022; and,

WHEREAS, we affirm that the people affected by overdose are our sons and daughters, our mothers and fathers, our brothers and sisters, and deserving of our love, compassion and support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims August 31, 2022 as

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

in Gaston County.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Allen R. Fraley

Tom Keigher

Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

Tracy L. Philbeck

Kim Johnson

Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 23rd Day of August 2022