



WHEREAS, the early childhood years are the most active period for establishing the neural connections that make up brain architecture, and a stable, secure relationship with a nurturing, caring adult is a key factor in young children's development; and,

WHEREAS, many parents and caregivers begin the difficult lifetime responsibility of raising a child feeling unprepared for the challenges ahead and children have a better, healthier start when parents and caregivers have the support needed to raise them; and,

WHEREAS, children are entitled to financial support from their parents, and Gaston County continues to improve its efforts at child support collections; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County applauds those parents who support their children and make child support payments consistently to provide security for their children; and,

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2021-2022, approximately \$14,502,763 in child support was collected from parents of Gaston County children; and,

WHEREAS, there are 7,332 child support orders in place to ensure that over 10,000 children receive financial support from their parents; and,

WHEREAS, increasing public awareness of the importance of Child Support through education, outreach and parental involvement will reinforce the position that all parents are responsible for the financial, emotional, and physical support of their children.

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

CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH

and reminds us all that we are invested in the future of Gaston County's Children, and we can collaborate to make that future stable and bright.

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