



WHEREAS, Gaston County cannot thrive if the public's health is not sound; and,

WHEREAS, public health professionals help communities prevent, prepare for, withstand and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, including disease outbreaks such as the COVID-19 pandemic, measles, natural disasters and disasters caused by human activity; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services works to prevent the spread of disease and understand the root causes of poor health and health disparities to remove barriers to good health for all Gaston County residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services works alongside elected officials, community leaders, planners, and boards and commissions to develop influential policies and protocols, that protect the public's health; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services Public Health staff have worked tirelessly over the past year during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide surveillance, contact tracing, outbreak investigation, community education and critical vaccinations to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims the month of April 2021 as

PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH

in Gaston County, and urges our citizens to renew their efforts to make a commitment to both their personal health and community health while recognizing the work that the Gaston County Department of Health and Human Services does to prevent, protect and provide for a healthier community.

Tom Keigher, Chairman

Chad Brown

Kim Johnson

Allen R. Fraley, Vice-Chairman

Tracy L. Philbeck

Bob Hovis

Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 27th Day of April 2021