



## WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCLAMATION

### National Hospice Palliative Care Month November 2018

**WHEREAS**, as Medicare's first proven coordinated care model, hospice is a program that works offering person-centered, compassionate care, ensuring people dignity, choice, and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the hospice model involves an interdisciplinary, team-oriented approach to treatment, including expert medical care, quality symptom control, and comprehensive pain management as a foundation of care; and

**WHEREAS**, beyond providing physical treatment, hospice attends to the patient's emotional, spiritual and family needs, and provides family services like respite care and bereavement counseling; and

**WHEREAS**, in an increasingly fragmented and broken health care system, hospice is one of the few sectors that demonstrates how health care can – and should – work at its best for its patient; and

**WHEREAS**, a growing body of peer-reviewed research indicates that timely access to hospice and palliative care can decrease hospitalizations and Emergency Room visits and increase quality of life for patients and family caregivers; and

**WHEREAS**, every year more than 1.5 million Americans living with life-limiting illness, and their families, received care from the nation's hospice programs in communities throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, hospice and palliative care organizations are advocates and educators about advance care planning that help individuals make decisions about the care they want; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have pledged to put patients first in all of its programs – including hospice – ensuring a coordinated and patient-led approach to care, protecting patient choice and access to individualized services based on a patient's unique care needs and wishes.

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Wake County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim November 2018 as **National Hospice Palliative Care Month** and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of care at the end of life and to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.

**ADOPTED** this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

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Jessica N. Holmes, Chair  
Wake County Board of Commissioners