



**Wake County Board of Commissioners Proclaim
Month of November 2016
As
National Hospice and Palliative Care Month**

WHEREAS, every year more than 1.65 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 empowers people to live as fully as possible, surrounded and supported by family and loved ones, despite serious and life-limiting illness; and

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care bring patients and family caregivers the highest quality care delivered by an interdisciplinary team of skilled professionals that includes physicians, nurses, social workers, therapists, counselors, health aides, spiritual care providers and others who make the wishes of each patient and family a priority; and

WHEREAS, through pain management and symptom control, caregiver training and assistance, and emotional and spiritual support, allowing patients to live fully up until the final moments, surrounded and supported by the faces of loved ones, friends, and committed caregivers, hospice and palliative care focus on quality of living; and

WHEREAS, all people are encouraged to learn about options for care – options like hospice and palliative care – before they are confronted with a healthcare crisis and to share such wishes through appropriate advance care planning activities; and

WHEREAS, advance care planning involves making decisions about the healthcare an individual would want to receive if he or she were facing a serious or life-limiting illness or if they were unable to speak for themselves; and

WHEREAS, more than 430,000 trained volunteers contribute 19 million hours of service to hospice program annually; and

WHEREAS, Each year, hospice saves Medicare more than \$2 billion by providing solutions for physicians, care to patients and comfort to families anywhere, at any time; and

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care providers encourage all people to learn more about options of care and to share their wishes with family, loved ones, and their healthcare professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Wake County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim November 2016, as "Hospice and Palliative Care Month" in Wake County.

This the 21st day of November, 2016

James West, Chairman
Wake County Board of County Commissioners