



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PROCLAMATION
Recognizing November 2019 as
National Hospice and Palliative Care Month**

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 2019 as **National Hospice and 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 4th day of November 2019.

Jessica N. Holmes, Chair
Wake County Board of Commissioners