



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PROCLAMATION
Recognizing May as
Children's Mental Health Awareness Month**

To promote awareness of positive mental health, well-being and development for all children, youth and young adults ages birth through 26 years in North Carolina.

WHEREAS, 20% of youth ages 13 to 18 live with a mental health condition, and 50% of all lifetime cases of mental illness begin by age 14 and; and

WHEREAS, many people do not seek treatment due to the stigma surrounding mental illness; and

WHEREAS, youth who receive services and supports for mental health and trauma have better behavioral and emotional health, fewer suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts, better school attendance and grades, and fewer arrests or delinquent behavior; and

WHEREAS, nearly 48% of youth in North Carolina have experienced one or more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); and

WHEREAS, effective mental health treatment services strengthen youth development and support families; and

WHEREAS, a System of Care is built on the strengths of the individuals to improve access to services and engage in a partnership between consumers seeking treatment and the agencies that provide services; and

WHEREAS, Wake County Community Collaborative for Children and Families, Wake System of Care, and the families and communities who have youth and young adults struggling with emotional and behavioral health issues join to recognize Children's Mental Health Awareness Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Wake County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim May 2019, "**CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**" in Wake County and commend its observance to our citizens.

ADOPTED this the 6th day of May 2019.

Jessica N. Holmes, Chair
Wake County Board of Commissioners