



**WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Proclamation**  
**Recognizing March 2021 as**  
**National Women's History Month**

**WHEREAS**, the Wake County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of the role of women in our county, our nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made, and continue to make, historic contributions to the growth and strength of the United States, North Carolina and Wake County in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

**WHEREAS**, women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life in our county by constituting a significant portion of the paid and volunteer labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

**WHEREAS**, women have served our country courageously in the military; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for 2021 National Women's History Month, selected annually by the National Women's History Alliance, *Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced*, captures the spirit of today's challenging times by recognizing the important roles of multicultural voting rights activists who refused to allow their voices to be silenced despite tremendous opposition; and

**WHEREAS**, women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage, but also in the Equal Rights, the Abolitionist, the Emancipation, the Industrial Labor, the Civil Rights, Peace, and other movements, which has created a more fair and just society for all; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these contributions, women in history have been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in literature, the teaching and study of American history; and

**WHEREAS**, the advancement of women and girls is a policy priority for Wake County, which seeks to create equity and eliminate discrimination affecting women who reside and/or work in Wake County, especially in the areas of:

- Employment and Equal Pay,
- Health and Well-Being,
- Housing and Homelessness; and
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and

**WHEREAS**, Wake County is committed to making deliberate efforts to ensure that our county is a place where differences are welcomed, different perspectives are respectfully heard, and everyone feels a sense of belonging and inclusion; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 7, 2020, the Wake County Board of Commissioners swore in the most representative and diverse board in history, which includes four women: Vice Chair Vickie Adamson; Commissioner Susan Evans; Commissioner Shinica Thomas; and Commissioner Maria Cervania; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wake County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim March 2021, as **NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH** and urges the residents of our community and communities across the country to celebrate the contributions of women of all backgrounds to the history of our country and our county, reflect on the value of women in our society, and encourage the creation of a more equitable society.

**ADOPTED** this the 22nd day of March 2021.

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Matthew M. Calabria, Chair  
Wake County Board of Commissioners