

2025 Public Health Week Proclamation

By the Guilford County Board of Commissioners
Guilford County, North Carolina

WHEREAS, we hereby recognize and acknowledge 114 years of continuous public health service to the residents of Guilford County by the Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services - Division of Public Health, and the immeasurable contribution of its services and programs to the quality of life in our County; and

WHEREAS, the County's public health division expands access to immunizations; advances safety standards for food and the workplace; promotes healthy lifestyle practices, gun violence prevention, and drug and injury prevention; and advocates for safe drinking water, improving the lives of residents and making our County stronger, healthier, and more prosperous; and

WHEREAS, the Guilford County public health workforce helps our community prevent, prepare for, withstand, and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, including disease outbreaks such as the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious diseases, as well as natural disasters and disasters caused by human activity; and

WHEREAS, significant actions have been implemented that have led to a 5% reduction (from a rate of 12.3 to 11.7 per 1,000 births) of the Black infant mortality rate since the launch of the Every Baby Guilford Program in 2021; and

WHEREAS, a person's health status can differ drastically by zip code due to differences in the built environment, environmental quality, community context, access to healthy food, access to education, and access to health care; and

WHEREAS, communities, local health departments, employers, hospitals and health care providers, individuals and families, insurers, county leaders and policy makers, faith-based communities, and schools and childcare facilities must work together to identify and develop innovative solutions to health problems facing the people of Guilford County; and

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Board of Commissioners is committed to a continued emphasis on prevention in public health, and to helping our county reach a better state of health through actions outlined in the Healthy North Carolina 2030 and Community Health Improvement Plan objectives; and protecting Guilford County citizens from threats such as COVID-19, influenza, foodborne disease, injury, and chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and asthma; and

WHEREAS, April 7-13, 2025, has been designated as the 30th anniversary of **NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK**, bringing together public health workers, students, organizations, and communities around the theme of "It Starts Here: Your Health is Our Mission."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Guilford County Board of Commissioners proclaims April 7-13, 2025 as "PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK" in Guilford County, expresses gratitude to the public health professionals that serve our county every day,

ADOPTED this the 3rd day of April, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the corporate seal of the County of Guilford to be affixed, this the 3rd day of April, 2025.

Melvin "Skip" Alston, Chairman

Guilford County Board of Commissioners

REQUESTED ACTION

Receive and adopt resolution designating the week of April 7-13, 2025 as Public Health Week 2025 in Guilford County.