

# <u>TITLE</u> PROCLAIM APRIL 2018 AS YOUNG CHILD MONTH

### **SPONSOR**

Commissioner Foster

# **BACKGROUND**

#### **Proclamation**

WHEREAS, incidents of sexual violence and child abuse are widespread and impact every community member of Guilford County; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence and child abuse are a public responsibility that affect both the current and future quality of life of Guilford County; and

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) and the Guilford County Family Justice Center work with community partners specializing in providing crisis response, advocacy and support to child and adult victims of abuse and sexual violence, which includes local law enforcement, Family Service of the Piedmont, Kellin Foundation's Child Response Initiative, Children's Law Center of Central North Carolina, District Attorney's office and Cone Health's Sexual Assault Forensic Nursing Program; and

WHEREAS, effective sexual assault and child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created amongst citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Board of Commissioners supports the efforts of national, state and local partners, and every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent both child abuse and sexual violence. Guilford County is committed to starting conversations, taking appropriate action and supporting one another to create a safe, stable and nurturing community for all.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Guilford County Board of Commissioners join advocates and communities across the country in playing an active role to prevent child abuse and sexual violence, and hereby proclaim April 2018 as:

## "CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH"

In Witness Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the corporate seal of the County of Guilford to be affixed, this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

J. Alan Branson, Chairman Guilford County Board of Commissioners

**REQUESTED ACTION** Proclaim the April 2018 as Young Child Month