



## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Karen Howard, Chair  
Katie Kenlan, Vice Chair  
David Delaney  
Franklin Gomez Flores  
Amanda Robertson

COUNTY MANAGER: Bryan Thompson

## Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners Recognizing October 2025 as National Youth Justice Action Month

**WHEREAS**, National Youth Justice Action Month (YJAM) is observed each October to raise awareness about the impact of the justice system on youth, promote equity and fairness, and encourage communities to work toward positive alternatives to incarceration; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that developmentally appropriate approaches to youth accountability improve public safety, reduce recidivism, and help young people reach their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County recognizes that young people are more likely to succeed when they are connected to their families, schools, and communities rather than placed in confinement; and

**WHEREAS**, racial and ethnic disparities continue to exist in the youth justice system nationwide, and addressing these inequities is essential to ensuring fairness and equal treatment for all young people; and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County is committed to supporting programs, services, and policies that foster prevention, early intervention, and rehabilitation, while promoting opportunities for youth to learn, grow, and thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, community-based organizations, educators, advocates, and justice partners play a vital role in guiding youth toward positive futures and strengthening families and neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, National Youth Justice Action Month provides an opportunity for the Chatham County community to come together to advocate for fair treatment of all young people and to reaffirm our shared responsibility to support their growth, safety, and well-being.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim October 2025 as National Youth Justice Action Month in Chatham County, and encourages residents, schools, faith communities, and local organizations to engage in activities and initiatives that promote youth development, equity, and justice.

Adopted, this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025.

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Karen Howard, Chair

ATTEST:

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Jenifer K Johnson, Clerk to the Board

*Integrity — Respect — Collaboration — Community — Equity — Service — Accountability*