



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

COUNTY MANAGER: Bryan Thompson

**Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners
Honoring April 2026 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Chatham County**

WHEREAS, child well-being is not just a moral imperative, but the foundation for building North Carolina’s future success and prosperity, and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to grow up in environments that promote healthy mental, physical, and emotional development, and

WHEREAS, communities that have the resources they need to ensure all families can access supports when they need them, free of judgement or barriers, can reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect, while promoting parental and family resilience, and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are preventable, and the responsibility to help every child meet their full potential lies within every community member, organization, and leader, recognizing that promoting positive experiences for all North Carolina families strengthens the future of our state, and

WHEREAS, collaboration among families, educators, early care providers, health care providers, faith-based organizations, local businesses, social services agencies, law enforcement, and community groups are essential for creating the positive environments and experiences children need to lead a healthy, purposeful life with hope for the future, and

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Health and Human Services, the state of North Carolina experienced a 7.6% decrease in the number of children investigated or assessed by protective services from 2020-2024 accounting for 106,717 children, and in 2024 the National Fatality Rate was 2.41 per 100,000 children, and

WHEREAS, Chatham County Child Protective Services accepted 296 reports for child abuse, neglect, and/or dependency in fiscal year 2024-25, and

WHEREAS, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, we recognize the importance of strengthening families and creating nurturing environments where all children feel supported, connected, and able to thrive.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners that April 2026 be honored as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Chatham County and call upon all residents, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, therefore by preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Adopted, this the 20th day of April, 2026.

Amanda Robertson, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Jenifer K. Johnson, Clerk to the Board

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