Resolution Proclaiming April 2014 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Chatham County

Whereas sexual assault affects every person in Chatham County, as a victim/survivor or as a family member, friend, neighbor or co-worker of a victim/survivor; and

Whereas 179 community members from Chatham County sought services for sexual assault last year; and

Whereas staff and volunteers of Family Violence and Rape Crisis Services and many community partner agencies are promoting prevention education by offering training to schools, churches, civic organizations and the community; and

Whereas law enforcement, medical providers, mental health practitioners, prosecutors, probation and parole, victim advocates and human services agencies are collaborating to improve the community response to sexual assault and to provide safety, coordination through the Coalition for Family Peace and services to survivors while holding perpetrators accountable; and

Whereas it is critical to increase public awareness of sexual assault and child sexual abuse, to educate people about the need for community involvement in efforts to reduce violence, to increase support for agencies providing sexual violence services; and

Whereas the members of the Coalition for Family Peace request public support and assistance as they continue to work toward a society where all children, women and men can live in peace, free from violence and exploitation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim April 2014 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Chatham County and commend this observance to all community members.

Adopted, this the _____day of ______.

Walter Petty, Chairman

ATTEST:

Lindsay K. Ray, Clerk to the Board Chatham County Board of Commissioners