



CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jim Crawford, Chairman
Mike Cross, Vice Chairman
Diana Hales
Karen Howard
Walter Petty

COUNTY MANAGER

Charlie Horne

P. O. Box 1809, Pittsboro, NC 27312-1809 • Phone: (919) 542-8200

Chatham County Board of Commissioners

A Resolution Proclaiming Vulnerable Adult & Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Chatham County

WHEREAS, Chatham County wishes to join the state, nation and world in recognizing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, 2015, and the State of North Carolina in recognizing May 8 through June 22, 2015 as Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Mother's and Father's Days both occur during this period and are opportunities to honor, respect, and promote the dignity and well-being of parents and all elders;

WHEREAS, national and international research shows that abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable and older adults are grossly underreported; and

WHEREAS, our vulnerable and older adults of all social, economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds may be targets of abuse, neglect or exploitation in families, long-term care settings and communities; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina enacted the nation's first elder abuse law in 1973 aimed at protecting older adults and younger vulnerable adults with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, protecting vulnerable and older adults is a community responsibility and all citizens are charged under state law to report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation to County Social Services; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 there were nearly 23,000 reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults made to North Carolina's 100 County Departments of Social Services—up from about 21,000 in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Department of Social Services, the Chatham County Council on Aging, the Sheriff's Office, Chatham County Libraries and many other local organizations and groups are joining together to raise awareness about elder abuse in its various forms.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Chatham County Board of County Commissioners that May 8 through June 22, 2015 is proclaimed Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Month and calls upon the people of Chatham County to observe the month by honoring vulnerable and older adults and taking steps to promote their well-being.

Adopted this 4th day of May of 2015.

James Crawford, Chairman
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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