

OF NOVEMBER AS  
**ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH**

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**WHEREAS,** *Adoption Awareness Month* is celebrated to call attention to the fact that every child deserves to grow up in a loving, nurturing, permanent home and that this experience lays the foundation for a happy, productive adulthood; and

**WHEREAS,** in North Carolina last year there were approximately 15,892 children living away from their birth parents; 1,344 of these children were adopted; and

**WHEREAS,** in Buncombe County there are 328 children in foster care and adoption is the permanency plan for approximately 159 children who are waiting for a forever family; and

**WHEREAS,** during the month of November, Buncombe County Human Services, private adoption agencies, the faith community and local advocacy groups will participate in a statewide public awareness campaign around adoption. This collaborative effort will focus greater attention on children who need permanent adoptive families and honor families who have adopted children.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That the month of November, 2016 be proclaimed

**ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH**

in Buncombe County.

2. That all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, businesses and others be encouraged to celebrate adoption and honor adoptive families by increasing their awareness of the issues of adoption and helping to focus attention on the need for adoptive parents and the children who are waiting for permanent homes.
3. That this proclamation be effective upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED** this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2016.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE**

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**DAVID GANTT, CHAIRMAN**