

Proclamation
of
Vulnerable Adults and Elder Abuse Awareness Month

- WHEREAS,** Buncombe County's vulnerable and elder adults deserve to live safely with dignity; and
- WHEREAS,** vulnerable and elder adults of all socio-economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds may be targets of abuse, neglect or exploitation which occurs in families, long term care facilities and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** abuse of our vulnerable and elder adults is most often defined as any act that harms or threatens their health, welfare or financial situation; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2010 more than 18,000 reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable and elder adults were made to North Carolina's 100 County Departments of Social Services; and
- WHEREAS,** protecting Buncombe County's vulnerable and elder adults is a community responsibility and it is imperative that communities work together to help reduce and prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2030, 1 in 4 North Carolinians will be over the age of 60; and
- WHEREAS,** all citizens should watch for signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable and elder adults and report it to their local Department of Social Services.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That this Board does hereby proclaim May 6 to June 20, 2011 as:

Vulnerable Adults and Elder Abuse Awareness Month

in Buncombe County.

2. That this Board does here by encourage all citizens to participate in community efforts to support and improve the safety and well-being of vulnerable and elder adults and secure their right to live free of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
3. That this proclamation be effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of June, 2011.

Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

BY: _____
David Gantt, Chairman