Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners

Proclaiming Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Month in Chatham County

WHEREAS, Chatham County wishes to join the nation and world in recognizing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on Friday, June 15, 2017, and the State of North Carolina in recognizing the period of May 13th (Mother’s Day) through June 17th (Father’s Day) as Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, this special day and period provide an opportunity for communities around the world to raise awareness of elder abuse and neglect and renew a commitment to promote and preserve the dignity of older adults; and

WHEREAS, research shows that abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable and older adults remain grossly underreported and affect vulnerable and older adults of all social, economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds; 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, fraud and scams against older adults remain a major problem, robbing people of their income and dignity; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Department of Social Services, the Chatham County Council on Aging, and the Sheriff’s Office are among the many local organizations and groups working to raise greater awareness about elder abuse in its various forms.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chatham County Board of County Commissioners that May 13 through June 17, 2018 is proclaimed Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Month, to honor vulnerable and older adults, help prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation, and take steps to promote their well-being.

Adopted, this the 11th day of April 2018.