



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Least of These Carolinas, which began operations in 2013 as Least of These Gaston and was later renamed Least of These Carolinas to better describe its impact in surrounding counties, is celebrating 5 years of providing quality services, opportunities and support for children in foster and kinship care; and

WHEREAS, our community is fortunate to have **Least of These Carolinas** here, serving as an important resource and leader for the foster care community and the community as a whole, encouraging awareness and involvement with foster youth; and

WHEREAS, Least of These Carolinas has successfully operated through private funding provided by grants and private individuals to help and support children in foster/kinship care through programs such as the 12 Hours of Christmas that provides Christmas gifts, making sure these children receive birthday gifts, providing a complete camp experience for youth through Bridge Camp, ensuring that children have beds to sleep in at night, partnering with Gaston County DHHS to provide emergency items for children coming into care, providing a personalized bag full of necessary items for children that have lost everything and so much more, to enable the children of our community that are in foster care to enjoy a better life; and

WHEREAS, Least of These Carolinas strongly supports foster/kinship caregivers by providing support groups and other important resources needed.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia, and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, hereby congratulate and join in celebrating the

5th Anniversary of Least of These Carolinas

supporting and encouraging the growth of the foster care community as they restore hope for so many.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 18th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk