



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Guardian ad Litem Program exists in every county throughout the state and has established a distinguished record of public service through its work to provide trained community volunteers who help abused and neglected children by advocating for their best interests when they are involved in the court system; and

WHEREAS, the court appoints Guardian ad Litem advocates to investigate and determine the needs of these children, to recommend what is best for the child, and to represent the child's voice in court proceedings; and

WHEREAS, Guardian ad Litem volunteers come from a variety of professional, educational and ethnic backgrounds, collaborating with other participants in the court case, to serve the best interests of children who find themselves involved in court cases in the often unfamiliar court and child welfare systems; and

WHEREAS, the Guardian ad Litem Program, through its volunteer advocates, protects and defends children from harm, ensures that these children are provided with the court-ordered services they need; and works to assist in developing a plan that will provide these children with a safe, permanent home.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of Gastonia do hereby proclaim the month of April as

GUARDIAN AD LITEM VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

and encourage all citizens to honor the contributions of our Guardian Ad Litem volunteers who are child advocates.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed this the 17th day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and eighteen.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

Attest:

Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk