BURKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

SOCIAL WORK MONTH 2026 PROCLAMATION
SOCIAL WORKERS: UPLIFT. DEFEND. TRANSFORM.

WHEREAS, individuals have entered the social work profession for generations because they are committed to helping improve the well-being of people, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers positively impact the lives of millions of Americans each day in hospitals, schools, child welfare agencies, community centers, assisted living facilities, and within federal, state, and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Social Work Month theme, "Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform.," recognizes the dedication and expertise Social Workers bring to strengthening individuals and families, promoting resilience, and supporting positive change; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers adhere to a professional Code of Ethics that emphasizes service, integrity, respect, and the inherent dignity and worth of every person; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers help all people, regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex or disability; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers assist individuals and families navigating life's challenges, including mental health concerns, substance use recovery, family transitions, aging, disability, and times of crisis; and

WHEREAS, Social Workers help protect children, support families under stress, connect individuals with essential services, and work collaboratively with community partners to improve outcomes; and

WHEREAS, research demonstrates that the presence of Social Workers in schools, healthcare settings, and community agencies improves educational achievement, health outcomes, and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the social work profession continues to grow, with more than 800,000 Social Workers serving communities across the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Burke County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of March 2026 as National Social Work Month in Burke County and commend Social Workers for their ongoing service and commitment to uplifting, defending, and transforming the lives of those they serve.

Approved this 16th day of March 2026.

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Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman
Burke Co. Board of Commissioners