RED CROSS MONTH
MARCH 2026

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross Chapter serving Western North Carolina, including Buncombe County, has a long history of helping our neighbors in need by delivering shelter, care, and hope during disasters; making our community safer through its lifesaving Home Fire Campaign; providing lifesaving blood; teaching skills that save lives; and supporting military members, veterans, and their families; and

WHEREAS, last fiscal year in Western North Carolina, 204 active volunteers assisted 625 people affected by 208 local disasters, most home fires; trained more than 9,000 people in First Aid, CPR & AED, and preparedness; collected nearly 24,000 units of blood; and provided 353 emergency services to military members, veterans, and their families; and

WHEREAS, since Hurricane Helene made landfall, the Red Cross has awarded more than $39 million in long-term recovery grants to non-profits and provided more than $5 million in financial assistance to affected families in Western North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, these collective efforts are a powerful reminder that the strength of our community lies in our shared commitment to one another; and

WHEREAS, we thank and honor the selfless volunteers, dedicated employees, and generous supporters who make this compassionate work possible,

NOW THEREFORE, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim **March, 2026** as **Red Cross Month** in Buncombe County and encourage all to recognize the daily efforts and contributions made by the American Red Cross in our community and across the nation in its vital work to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies.

This 17th day of March, 2026.

Amanda Edwards

Amanda Edwards, Chair
Buncombe County Board of Commissioners