

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE BACKPACK BEGINNINGS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Backpack Beginnings (BPB) was created six years ago by Greensboro resident Parker White as a means to assist and make a difference by providing hungry children within the community with food over the weekends, and currently serves over 6,000 children in need;

WHEREAS, the program has established programs in 54 organizations, including 38 schools and 20 child assistance organizations, and created a clothing pantry to provide clothing to children in need;

WHEREAS, BPB operates as a 100% volunteer organization through the support and time of over 200 delivery volunteers, and through the support of local businesses, churches, foundations and community members, the program is able to fund and grow its operations annually;

WHEREAS, the Food Backpack Program provides child friendly, nutritious food to children enrolled annually from elementary schools or head start programs with weekend meals;

WHEREAS, for children experiencing trauma, the Comfort Backpack Program provides age and gender specific comfort items and basic necessities such blankets, books, journals, hygiene products, school supplies, an age appropriate toy and stuffed animals to Guilford, Forsyth, and Alamance County partner agencies;

WHEREAS, BPB provides fresh food, canned and dry goods, proteins, fruits, vegetables, pasta, rices, breakfast food, snacks, 100% fruit juice and other food items for food pantries managed by middle and high school staff to ensure children with the greatest needs to have direct access to food;

WHEREAS, the Clothing Backpack Program provides free gently used and new clothing during select times for social workers to shop for Guilford County children ages 1 – 17;

WHEREAS, Founder and Executive Director, Parker White has been nominated for The NASCAR Foundation's sixth annual Betty Jane France Humanitarian Award presented by Nationwide, and the Foundation will donate a total of \$175,000 to the charities of the finalists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That it hereby recognizes and commends the Backpack Beginnings Program for their work in Guilford County and the region.