RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER (FJC) ON ITS SECOND ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Family Justice Center (FJC) opened June 15, 2015 with a mission to empower family violence victims to live free from violence and abuse and hold offenders accountable by providing easily accessible, coordinated, and comprehensive services in a single location;

WHEREAS, FJC is a "one stop shop" for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child and elder abuse that incorporates 55 professionals from 15 different disciplines who work together to provide consolidated and coordinated safety, legal, social and health services to those in need;

WHEREAS, through FJC, victims of domestic and sexual violence have access to a wide range of supportive resources such as meeting with a victim advocate, talking with a law enforcement officer; meeting with the appropriate parties for filing a restraining order or to discuss civil and criminal legal issues; receiving medical assistance, and gaining information on how to access shelter and other community resources;

WHEREAS, through the work and services of FJC there has been a decrease in the number of domestic violence related homicides in Guilford County even though the number of overall homicides in the County has risen;

WHEREAS, some of the key accomplishments over the past two years include, but are not limited to the following: onsite service to nearly 11,000 individuals and families, implementation of electronic filing for restraining orders which has reduced the process from eight to three hours, the addition of an Assistant District Attorney in Guilford County whose position is dedicated to working with victims of intimate partner violence and collaborating with FJC partners, establishment of the VOICES Council who participate and support FJC outreach initiatives, the expansion of local community based organization partnerships from 17 to over 45, and the launch of a collaborative specifically focused on providing education, response and resource to aging adults who have experienced abuse;

WHEREAS, the City Council commends FJC for their work and contributions to the City of Greensboro and to Guilford County.

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

That it hereby recognizes the Guilford County Family Justice Center on its second anniversary and extends appreciation for the contributions FJC has made to the community over the past two years.