RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER (FJC) ON ITS THIRD 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 60 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, the success of impact of FJC is rooted in partnerships and through its work and services, there has been an 88% decrease in the number of domestic violence related homicides in Greensboro; and no homicides associated with the victims who have sought services from the FJC;

WHEREAS, some of the key accomplishments over the past three years include, but are not limited to the following: onsite service to over 17,000 individuals and families, increased access to emergency legal assistance through Elon University's School of Law, enhanced training to professionals to improve response to highly lethal cases of abuse, community outreach to over 10,000 citizens, nationally recognized programming focused on reducing elder abuse and financial exploitation, and the launch of Camp HOPE America-North Carolina, Guilford County – a year-round camping and mentoring program designed especially for children impacted by domestic violence that is focused on providing pathways to hope and healing and breaking the generational cycles of violence and 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 third anniversary and extends appreciation for the contributions FJC has made to the community over the past three years.