

**NEW HANOVER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**PROCLAMATION**

**FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH  
MAY 2008**

WHEREAS, in New Hanover County there are nearly 400 children of all ages in custody of Department of Social Services and of those children, over half reside in foster homes, group homes and hospitals; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of this community to provide these children with safe, stable and nurturing family environments; and

WHEREAS, we turn more and more to the family foster homes of New Hanover County to nurture the bodies and spirits of the children in our charge while our social workers support parents in building on their strengths to provide safe, permanent homes for their children to return; and

WHEREAS, foster parents frequently adopt their foster children, which results in a continual need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, May is singled out as Foster Care Awareness Month to be the one month we publicly recognize the tremendous contribution made by foster parents, numerous individuals and public and private organizations to the child welfare system and to the lives of the young somehow entangled in that system.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners proclaims May 2008 as FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners, in recognition of Foster Care Month, thank all foster mothers and foster fathers for their commitment of time and talents to these precious children and encourage all citizens to celebrate the contributions of foster parents and child welfare professionals. The New Hanover County Board of Commissioners further encourages the community, businesses, faith-based organizations and families to participate in efforts to recruit and support foster families in New Hanover County.

ADOPTED THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF MAY, 2008

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Robert G. Greer, Chairman

Attest:

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Clerk to the Board