

**RESOLUTION HONORING THE OBSERVANCE OF “WE ARE HOPE” WEEK IN
HENDERSON COUNTY PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS
NOVEMBER 9, 2026 – NOVEMBER 13, 2026**

WHEREAS, Substance and alcohol abuse negatively affects many areas of the brain, the liver, the heart, and other body parts and can cause adverse behavior, psychological, and social consequences; and

WHEREAS, there were more than 69,900 drug overdose deaths in the United States in 2025 and 44,564 of those deaths involved opioids; and

WHEREAS, substance and alcohol abuse continues to occur among children and youth in our society. In 2025, 15.3% of youth aged 12 years or older met diagnostic criteria for a substance use disorder in the past year; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2025 National Survey on Drug Use and Health from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, approximately 1 in 4 youth aged 12 years or older reported illicit drug use in last year, including 129.1 million reported alcohol use, followed by 46.9 million using tobacco products, 43.8 million using marijuana, and 29.3 million vaping nicotine; and

WHEREAS, student leaders in Henderson County Public Schools’ six high schools and four middle schools have joined with local Henderson County coalition HopeRx in educating their peers on alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and prescription drug use and abuse; and

WHEREAS, students at Apple Valley Middle, Flat Rock Middle, Hendersonville Middle, Rugby Middle, East Henderson High, Innovative High School, Henderson County Career Academy, Mountain Community School, Hendersonville High, North Henderson High, and West Henderson High are pledging to be and remain substance-free.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Hendersonville City Council, that November 9th - 13th, 2026, be observed in Henderson County Public Schools’ middle and high schools as “We Are Hope” substance misuse awareness week.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Hendersonville, North Carolina on this 28th day of October, 2026.

Attest:

Barbara Volk, Mayor, City of Hendersonville

Jill Murray, City Clerk

Approved as to form: _____ Angela S. Beeker, City Attorney