

City of Kinston

Office of the Mayor



PROCLAMATION

Whereas, for over 50 years, Community Health Centers have provided high-quality, affordable health care in our nation's underserved communities; and

Whereas, what began as a small demonstration project in two states has grown into the country's largest primary care network, with Health Centers now serving over 24 million Americans through more than 9,000 delivery sites across the nation; and

Whereas, Health Centers provide high quality, cost effective, and accessible primary and preventive care, including integrated medical, oral, vision, behavioral health, and pharmacy services, to all individuals regardless of insurance status or ability to pay; and

Whereas, Health Centers are located in medically underserved areas and locally controlled by patient-majority boards; and

Whereas, Health Centers nationally employ nearly 170,000 people who work as part of a multi-disciplinary clinical teams designed to treat the whole patient; and

Whereas, the Health Center model continues to prove an effective means of reducing healthcare disparities and overcoming barriers to healthcare access and improves health care outcomes and reduces health care system costs; and

Whereas, Health Centers save the entire health system approximately \$24 billion annually by managing chronic conditions and keeping patients out of costlier health care settings; and

Whereas, Health Centers have worked tirelessly to grow the nation's primary care infrastructure to meet the pressing need for access to care; and

Whereas, the demand for Health Centers continues to outpace growth, and expansion of health centers' capacity and reach will be essential to meet the needs of these new patients; and

Whereas, National Health Center Week offers the opportunity to recognize America's Health Centers, their dedicated staff, board members, and all those responsible for their continued success and growth since the first health centers opened their doors more than 50 years ago.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor BJ Murphy, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, do hereby proclaim the week of August 7-13, 2016, as

National Health Center Week

and, I encourage every citizen and official to visit their local Health Center and celebrate the important partnership between America's Health Centers and the communities they serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Kinston this 18th day of July in the year of our Lord, two thousand and sixteen.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BJ Murphy".

BJ Murphy
Mayor