

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

GAYLE BRIDGES HARRIS

- WHEREAS,** Gayle Bridges Harris began her career with Durham County Government in 1972 after graduating from the Duke University School of Nursing; and
- WHEREAS,** beginning as a staff public health nurse, she developed an unparalleled reputation for providing compassionate medical care to residents in various neighborhoods throughout Durham County, helping them manage chronic diseases and more; and
- WHEREAS,** Gayle quickly rose through the ranks of the Public Health Department assuming the positions of nursing supervisor, director of nursing, assistant health director and ultimately was named public health director in 2009; and
- WHEREAS,** as she steadily progressed in her career, Gayle enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received a Master of Public Health in 1990; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2016, Gayle was named General Manager for Community Well-Being in addition to her role as public health director which allowed her to oversee Cooperative Extension, Library, Social Services and Veteran Services along with Alliance Health; and
- WHEREAS,** despite an always challenging schedule, she managed to serve on numerous boards and commissions including Durham Directors, NC Association of Local Health Directors, NC Public Health Association, American Public Health Association, Project Access, American Nurses Association and more; and
- WHEREAS,** her knowledge, skills and formidable abilities were recognized by others as she received numerous awards including the UNC School of Public Health Alumni Association Distinguished Alumna Award, Duke University School of Nursing 2012 Distinguished Alumna Award, and NC Association of Local Health Directors Ham Stevens Award to name a few; and
- WHEREAS,** Gayle will long be remembered as one of the Durham County Government’s most dedicated, innovative and creative professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the members of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby resolve to honor

GAYLE BRIDGES HARRIS

for 47 years of loyal and faithful service to Durham County Government and the citizens of Durham County. We applaud and salute the positive impact and invaluable contributions Gayle has made toward improving the quality of life and health for the entire Durham community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we wish her continued good health and a wealth of joy and happiness as she retires and commences a new journey in her life.

This 23rd day of September 2019.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair

James Hill, Jr., Vice-Chair

Heidi Carter, Commissioner

Brenda A. Howerton, Commissioner

Ellen Reckhow, Commissioner

