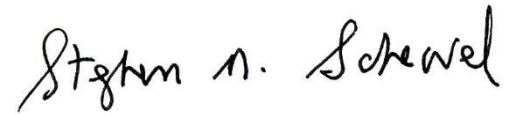


Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** families are a priority in Durham, NC and part of helping families to thrive is ensuring that they receive community support to develop and sustain healthy lifestyles; and
- WHEREAS,** The American Academy of Pediatrics “...affirms its recommendation of exclusive breastfeeding for about 6 months, followed by continued breastfeeding as complementary foods are introduced, with [the] continuation of breastfeeding for 1 year or longer as mutually desired by mother and infant”; and
- WHEREAS,** The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology states that “Obstetrician–gynecologists and other obstetric care providers should support women and encourage policies that enable women to integrate breastfeeding into their daily lives and in the workplace”; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the American Dietetic Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, and other leading health organizations, breastfeeding and human milk is the optimal way to feed infants; and
- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding is associated with lower rates of childhood illness, such as obesity, diabetes, and infectious diseases, as well as reduced risk of maternal breast and ovarian cancers and faster recovery from childbirth as compared to formula feeding; and
- WHEREAS,** a parent’s decision to feed human milk to infants directly or through expression should be supported by family members and the community; and
- WHEREAS,** creating a local Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care designation supports the parent’s continued breastfeeding with expressing milk after returning to work or school; and
- WHEREAS,** encouraging our local education systems to include breastfeeding and human milk feeding curricula at all levels normalizes breastfeeding; and
- WHEREAS,** collaborating on community resources and building community awareness can positively impact breastfeeding success; and
- WHEREAS,** our community is proud to have attained broad support, and direct community actions including: The Durham County Health Department, Chamber of Commerce, Community Health Workers, Lactation support providers, Community advocates.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stephen M. Schewel, Mayor of the City of Durham, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim Durham as a **“Breastfeeding Family Friendly Community”** and hereby urge all citizens to provide a supportive and welcoming environment for families of all races, ethnicities, family structures to initiate and continue optimal infant feeding/nursing.

Witness my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Durham, North Carolina, this the 19th day of April 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen M. Schewel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Stephen M. Schewel
Mayor