

LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow

RESOLUTION **Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children**

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners understands that every year, thousands of undocumented minor children have fled their countries in Central America arriving in the United State alone or find themselves alone after arrival; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners understands these unaccompanied minors are typically defined as children without immigration status who enter the United States without a parent or legal guardian: and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners recognizes that each child should be afforded the basic condition that represents the well-being for all children and families; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners being a compassionate collective group, recognizes that special attention should be paid to unaccompanied child victims of trafficking as they special require material support due to their particular vulnerabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners recognizes the physical, mental health and educational needs of these Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children adds to the strain of our already over-burdened schools, county employees, and funding sources; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners recognizes the ethnic diversity of these children and the tremendous barriers they will face to becoming locally self- sufficient; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners understands that these Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children will not be entitled to traditional social services; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners understands these Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children will not qualify for the Federal Food & Nutrition Benefit Program as current policy is written; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners understands these Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children, under current policy, will not qualify for reimbursable Foster Care Services to include Foster Care Placement services in the event family/sponsor placements were to disrupt; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners understands these Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children will not qualify for Medicaid coverage except for limited Emergency Services under current policy; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners understands these Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children do not fit the current criteria for Refugee Assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Board of Commissioners believes assuming responsibility for these Unaccompanied Minor Undocumented Children will create substantial material and socio-economic hardships for Lee County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT BE RESOLVED that the Lee County Board of Commissioners is compelled not to participate in or to allow county resources to be committed in support of the relocation of undocumented and unaccompanied children into Lee County until and unless the following preconditions are established:

- (1) Federal and state financial reimbursement mechanisms are clearly established for full cost recovery for Lee County government's involvement in all relocation activities in a timely manner;
- (2) Clearly established protocols are outlined for medical and physical screenings of these children prior to their being relocated into this state so as to prevent viral illnesses and other infectious diseases from being trafficked into Lee County; and
- (3) Procedures are put in place for advanced coordination with both the Social Services Director and the Health Director prior to the relocation of any child.

Adopted this 20 day of October 2014.



Charles T. Parks, Chairman
Lee County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Gaynell M. Lee, Clerk to the Board