2023 RES-235 RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2023 AS NATIONAL CHILD SAFETY AND PROTECTION MONTH AND NATIONAL HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, children are our most precious resource and deserve a secure and nurturing environment and a safe and stable home that supports growth, development, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, November has been designated as National Child Safety and Protection Month, providing an opportunity for communities, including Dane County, to focus on raising awareness, and promoting and advocating for initiatives that enhance safety and protection of our children; and

WHEREAS, the alarming rise in youth gun violence in our community has become a pressing concern, posing a significant threat to the lives and future of our young citizens, and, tonight, we remember Devon Grant and Kyesha Miller, two young residents of Dane County, whose lives were senselessly taken too soon as innocent victims of gun violence this year; and

WHEREAS, Dane County also acknowledges the critical issue of youth homelessness and its profound impact on the lives of young individuals; and

WHEREAS, November has been designated as National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, providing an opportunity to promote initiatives to combat the challenges faced by unhoused youth and to advocate for solutions to address this pressing issue; and

WHEREAS, homelessness among youth can result in adverse outcomes, including compromised education, increased vulnerability, and challenges in accessing essential services, and, tonight, we lift up over 750 youth across Dane County who are without safe and adequate housing; and

WHEREAS, working alongside parents, caregivers, educators, and the community to eradicate the potential risks facing children by creating preventative measures that can be implemented is crucial for fostering a safer environment for all generations; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of Dane County to promote a safe environment conducive to growth, development, and prosperity of youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dane County Board of Supervisors officially recognizes the month of November as National Child Safety Protection Month and National Homeless Youth Awareness Month and commits itself to playing an active role in promoting child safety and protection, unequivocally condemns youth gun violence as a grave threat to the well-being and future of our youth, and dedicates itself to addressing and finding solutions to youth homelessness through awareness, advocacy, and collaborative community efforts.

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	Patrick Miles, Chair Dane County Board of Supervisor
Signed and sealed before me this day of, 2023.	
Scott McDonell, Dane County Clerk	_