



**Office of the County Manager**  
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September 25, 2016

Katherine Williams,  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Youth Thrive

Re: Youth Thrive

Dear Ms. Williams:

Wake County Government would like to express support for the **Strategic Goals and High Five Actions** of Youth Thrive. By working collectively toward these goals and engaging in these actions, our community can improve outcomes for Wake County youth.

These goals include:

- 95% of third grade students read on grade level
- 95% of students graduate high school ready for college and career
- Eliminate youth bullying and suicides

**High Five Actions:**

1. Collect and Share Data:
  - a. Administer a survey to youth on outcomes in the Blueprint (provided by Youth Thrive)
  - b. Measure and provide data on program capacity, and participation with demographics of participants
2. Ensure all staff in the organization are trained in Mental Health First Aid and attend at least one additional Youth Thrive Network event.
3. Participate in local Bullying Prevention Initiatives.
4. Promote all children and youth reading for at least fifteen minutes per day and provide grade level appropriate reading materials.
5. Promote access to college by working to ensure that by 9<sup>th</sup> grade, all students have the opportunity to visit at least one college.

This work is in alignment with the Strategic Goals of Wake County Government. We support these goals and actions and the positive impact they will have on the community, both now and for years to come. Furthermore, we support these efforts by a budget allocation in FY2017 of \$45,000 and by the ongoing support of the Youth Thrive Board by Regina Petteway and Katherine Williams.

Sincerely,

Jim Hartmann, Wake County Manager