

WHEREAS, in 1914, Dr. Booker T. Washington, founder of Tuskegee Institute, initiated Negro Health Improvement Week, which evolved into National Negro Health Week and the National Negro Health Movement. The first National Negro Health Week was recognized in April 1915, and it was observed annually for 35 years;

WHEREAS, its 35-year history represents the longest sustained health promotion and disease prevention for African Americans in public health history;

WHEREAS, in April 2001, the National Minority Health Month Foundation, in partnership with the federal Office of Minority Health, launched National Minority Health Month. This was done in response to and in support of Healthy People 2010, the national health promotion and disease prevention agenda promulgated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services;

WHEREAS, the subsequent passage on October 3, 2002 by the 107th Congress of a joint resolution (H. Congressional Resolution 388) to establish a National Minority Health and Health Disparities Month lends to this movement the recognition of the Legislative Branch that a national focus of the health status on specific populations is an essential component of national policy;

WHEREAS, public health agencies and organizations recognize that it is very important to eradicate health disparities in our communities to improve health, quality of life and longevity for all of our citizens;

WHEREAS, eliminating health disparities has been the focus of public health agencies and organizations and policies and programs have been instituted to address numerous health issues that disproportionately impact minority communities; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that women live longer than men by five to six years and use health care 100% more than men. The United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health has chosen men's health as the focus of National Minority Health Month 2010 with the theme – "Man Up for Your Health! Healthy Men Move Our Communities Forward."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2010 as

MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

in Greenville and encourage our citizens, community-based and faith-based organizations, educational institutions, hospital and health department to join me in this worthy observance.

This 13th day of April, 2010.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor