

Proclamation

FOSTER CARE MONTH May 2021

Whereas, childhood is a time of laughter and play; it is a time of curiosity and wonder, it is a time for making friends, learning, and exploring the world. When children feel safe, secure, and loved, they can grow strong and confident; and

Whereas, for almost 4,500 Colorado children, this image of a happy childhood does not exist. These children's experience is often sadness and pain; it is fear and loss. It is separation from family, friends, their community, and sometimes their pets. They are unable to remain with their birth families, through no fault of their own. These children need temporary families, who help them feel safe and secure; a place to heal from the trauma they have experienced; and

Whereas, in 1988, May was declared Foster Care Month to raise awareness of foster care, and to celebrate and honor foster families and the entire foster care community; and

Whereas, foster parents play an amazing role for birth families. They fill in to support Adams County birth families who need time to overcome challenges and time to be whole again. During this global pandemic, foster families have once again shown us their strength and courage. They have accepted the pandemic challenges and have unfailingly shown up for Adams County's children; and

Whereas, we want to thank and highlight the large and diverse community of nonprofit organizations, businesses, civic groups, public servants, and individuals who are committed to the cause of caring for and raising awareness of the needs of children and youth in foster care; and

Whereas, the Adams County Human Services Department understands children are the key to Colorado's future success and prosperity, they wholeheartedly accept the task to care for children, youth, and families; strive to ensure safety and well-being despite all the legal, economic, and social challenges to protect the rights of children to grow up with their families, to be safe, and to live their authentic lives; and

Whereas, Colorado is experiencing a shortage of foster families. Colorado needs more families willing to provide care for children and youth with complex behavioral and mental health needs, so they can live in family settings, and not congregate care settings, and to provide care for sibling groups so they can remain together as they move through this difficult time in their life; and

Whereas, although Adams County has many wonderful foster families, we are still in need of more and there is no better month to begin the process of becoming a foster parent than May, National Foster Care Month; and

Whereas, the Adams County Board of Commissioners recognizes the important role foster parents play in the lives of children and youth in foster care; and the roles case workers and the community play in shaping the lives of children and youth in foster care.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Adams, State of Colorado, proclaims May 2021 as

“Foster Care Month”

In witness whereof, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the county to be affixed May 4, 2021.