

State of North Carolina ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

FOSTER CARE MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, and support, should be the foundation of our communities and our state; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, there are more than 10,000 children and youth in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of foster care is to provide safe, secure, and stable homes through the compassion and nurturing of a foster family or relative kinship family; and

WHEREAS, foster families and kinship families open their homes and hearts to children whose families are in crisis, and play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reunify, while launching children into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families and kinship families sometimes adopt foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, communities, and public and private organizations working to increase public awareness of the needs of children both in foster care and exiting foster care, and of the enduring and valuable contributions made by foster and kinship families; and

WHEREAS, Foster Care Month is an opportunity to recognize the foster parents, child welfare professionals, and advocates working to ensure children's safety, well-being, and permanence, and to spread awareness on behalf of the thousands of children in foster care in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages people to volunteer their time, energy, and talents on behalf of children in foster care and their biological families, kinship caregivers, and foster parents during this month and throughout the year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2018, as **"FOSTER CARE MONTH"** in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.





IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this second day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.