



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

ADOPTION MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Adoption Month celebrates all North Carolina adoptions; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 national theme for Adoption Month is *In Their Own Words: Lifting Up Youth Voices*; North Carolina families are encouraged to share their hearts and homes with older youth at risk of aging out of foster care waiting to be adopted; and

WHEREAS, every child deserves the opportunity to grow up in a loving, stable family, and adoption is one way to build a family; and

WHEREAS, caring adults and committed families can make all the difference in the lives of young people, sibling groups, children with special needs, and teenagers; and

WHEREAS, 8,971 children in North Carolina are currently in foster care, and 1,528 children were adopted in 2017; and

WHEREAS, each County Department of Social Services in the State of North Carolina works diligently to place foster children in adoptive homes; and

WHEREAS, NC Kids Adoption and Foster Care Network within the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, recruits approved adoptive families with the hope of placing current children in foster care who are awaiting adoption; and

WHEREAS, Adoption Month is an opportunity to celebrate foster and adoptive families and spread awareness on behalf of the hundreds of children in foster care in North Carolina who continue to wait for a loving permanent family; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages communities, businesses, groups, schools, faith-based organizations, families, and individuals to participate in efforts to recruit permanent, loving families for North Carolina's waiting children;

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





Roy Cooper
Governor

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 twenty-third day of October 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.