

CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE MONTH MAY 2021

WHEREAS, strengthening families and focusing on their well-being is the key to building strong communities; and keeping families together is the primary goal of the child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans have a long-standing tradition of opening their hearts and homes to children in need of stability and caring surroundings; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota foster parents are role models and an important support for parents, helping them enhance their relationship with their children to achieve family stability and maintain family connections until reunification can occur; and

WHEREAS, Children's Foster Care Month is an opportunity to recognize the nearly 900 licensed foster families who provide quality foster care in the state; and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing need to recruit new foster families and to retain current foster families; and

WHEREAS, grandparents, aunts, uncles and other close family members and relative caregivers also have an important role in providing normalcy, stability and family connections to their kin who are not able to remain with their biological parents; and

WHEREAS, foster families, human service zones, child welfare providers and professionals and others involved in foster care deserve recognition this month and all year long for their continued teamwork and steadfast devotion to the safety, permanency and well-being of children and adolescents; and

WHEREAS, this annual observance calls attention to the value of foster care as a temporary service that provides help, healing and hope to children, adolescents and their families in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 2021, CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE