



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**Doug Burgum**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE MONTH**  
MAY 2019

**WHEREAS**, strengthening families and focusing on their well-being is 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**, compassionate foster families play an important role in making sure children and adolescents are able to grow and develop in a safe, stable and nurturing environment until they can be reunited with their families or achieve permanency; and

**WHEREAS**, Children's Foster Care Month is an opportunity to recognize the nearly 1,000 licensed foster families who provide quality foster care in North Dakota; and

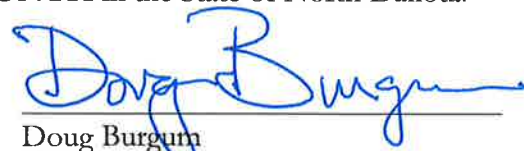
**WHEREAS**, relative caregivers, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles and other close family members, also play an important role in providing normalcy, stability and family connections to their kin who are not able to remain with their biological parents; and

**WHEREAS**, dedicated foster families often engage to finalize permanency through adoption when foster children cannot return to their birth families, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and


**WHEREAS**, foster families, county social services, child welfare providers and professionals and others involved in foster care deserve recognition 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 and adolescents in our state.

**NOW THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 2019, as **CHILDREN'S FOSTER CARE MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

  
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Doug Burgum  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State