



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, we recognize that there are children in our towns and communities who may not have a family, or whose families may be experiencing great difficulty and hardship; and

WHEREAS, the development of our children begins at home and in Tennessee there are more than 8,000 children and youth in foster care being provided with a safe, secure and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster family; and

WHEREAS, all young people in foster care need a meaningful connection to a caring adult who becomes a supportive and lasting presence in their lives; and

WHEREAS, foster, kinship and adoptive families who open their homes and hearts and support children whose families are in crisis play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect, thereby helping launch young people into successful adulthood; and

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

WHEREAS, we honor the Department of Children's Services, as well as other individuals and organizations throughout Tennessee who work diligently to serve the needs of children in foster care, as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 2020 as

Foster Care Month

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-eighth day of April, 2020.

Bill Lee

Governor

Lucretia

Secretary of State