



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, children are a blessing, and nurturing family support systems help children and youth thrive; and

WHEREAS, foster care can provide a nurturing family support system for children whose parents are temporarily or permanently unable to provide such support; and

WHEREAS, over 8,000 Tennessee children live in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the challenges that confront Tennessee's foster care system cannot be solved by government alone; and

WHEREAS, Every Child TN is a statewide initiative to mobilize all Tennesseans to care for children, youth, and families before, during, and after foster care; and

WHEREAS, Every Child TN is the result of strategic collaboration between the Tennessee Department of Children's Services and The Governor's Faith Based and Community Initiative and focuses on the following priorities:

- Family preservation: upholding the integrity of the family unit whenever doing so serves the best interests of the child.
- Foster family recruitment: cultivating foster families committed to providing a localized, familial setting for children and youth in foster care.
- Foster family retention: providing comprehensive support to foster families to mitigate attrition rates and enhance the fostering experience.
- Transition support: establishing robust support mechanisms for youth transitioning from foster care to autonomous adulthood.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim August 26, 2024 as

Every Child TN Day

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in the 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-sixth day of August 2024.

Bill Lee

Governor

Justin King

Secretary of State