Proclamation Declaring May 2025 Foster Care Appreciation Month

From Tracie McMillan <traciemcmillan@ashecountygov.com>

Date Wed 4/9/2025 9:14 AM

То Missy Seivers <missy.seivers@ashecountygov.com>

Cc Adam Stumb <adam.stumb@ashecountygov.com>; Michele Blevins <micheleblevins@ashecountygov.com>; Ed Hurst <edhurst@ashecountygov.com>; Jennifer Parsons <jenniferparsons@ashecountygov.com>; Tori Logel <torilogel@ashecountygov.com>

1 attachment (108 KB)

Foster Care Month Proclamation Request 2025.docx;

Missy

We are seeking to highlight the importance of foster parents in the life of a foster child. Will you please add this item to the agenda for me on Monday, April 21?

Thank you



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The County of Ashe

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH AND NATIONAL FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION DAY 2025

BY THE ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Children and youth are key to the future success, prosperity and quality of life for our community; and every child deserves to grow up in a loving, stable family, yet sadly, many children in America have parents who are unable to care for them; and

WHEREAS, foster parents, including kinship caregivers, provide the love, safety and stability that children need in order to overcome past traumatic experiences in order to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 10,094 children in North Carolina are currently in foster care, and 903 of which are young adults between the ages of 18 to 20 who are currently participating in the extended foster care program; and in Ashe County there are 39 foster care children and 6 of which involved in the extended foster care program; 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, we must come together as a community to recognize the important role foster parents play in caring for children who have experienced abuse and neglect, supporting family reunification and building strong communities; and

WHEREAS, there is always a need for more foster parents in order to ensure children — especially older youth, children with complex needs, and siblings — have a safe, stable home in their community; and

WHEREAS, we encourage residents of Ashe County to think about how they can help meet the need for our foster, kinship and adoptive families and youth by utilizing their time, energy, and talents on behalf of the children in our community; and the State of North Carolina encourages communities, businesses, groups, schools, faith-based organizations, families, and individuals to participate in efforts to recruit, loving families for North Carolina's waiting children;

WHEREAS, Foster Care Month and Foster Parent Appreciation day is an opportunity to recognize the foster parents, kinship families, child welfare professionals, and advocates working to ensure children's safety, permanence, and well-being and to spread awareness on behalf of children in foster care in Ashe County.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Ashe County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May, 2025, as **"FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH"** and May 31st, 2025 as **"NATIONAL FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION DAY"** in Ashe County, North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Todd McNeil
Chairman of the Board