



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, all of the 10,195 children in Alabama served by the foster care system in 2019 per the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR), and the more than 6,345 children currently in foster care, need safe and loving foster, kinship or safety plan placement homes to go to during the transition to permanency; and*

*WHEREAS, the primary goals of individuals who are interested in becoming foster parents should be to provide this type of environment, as well as physical care, emotional support, and overall advocacy for children's needs; and*

*WHEREAS, these individuals make the commitment to take the 10-13 weeks of foster parent training to become licensed, undergo a thorough background check, a very personal and rigorous home study involving final home preparations for placements, as well as maintaining their licenses via ongoing training throughout the year; and*

*WHEREAS, there are often many challenges and demands required of foster parents, including working collaboratively with placement agency staff and sometimes birth families, as well as school staff, dental and healthcare providers, and therapists on behalf of their foster children, while simultaneously balancing care of biological children, personal family dynamics, work, church and/or community involvement; and*

*WHEREAS, National Foster Parent Appreciation Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about the need for more community support for foster parents all throughout the year, to help increase the success of initial placements and reduce the number of disrupted, multiple placements, and to help ensure foster children have both a bright today and a bright future;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 31, 2020 as*

# *National Foster Parent Appreciation Day*

*in the state of Alabama.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the  
Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City  
of Montgomery on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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*Kay Ivey, Governor*