

## Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama strives to promote strong family bonds and safe living environments where children can flourish in the presence of loving parents, siblings and relatives; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Alabama's foster care system is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, with an emphasis on reuniting foster children with their biological families whenever that outcome can be achieved safely; and

WHEREAS, approximately 5,000 children throughout Alabama are growing up in kinship families who have opened their hearts and homes to provide the love, security, stability and family connections that all children deserve; and

WHEREAS, providers of kinship care can include grandparents, older siblings, aunts, uncles, first cousins and other relatives within four degrees of kinship to a child; and

WHEREAS, approximately 15 percent of Alabama foster children in out-of-home placements are with kinship care families; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Human Resources and its partners are committed to supporting kinship families through a variety of services designed to help children and their loved ones thrive; and

WHEREAS, Kinship Care Month recognizes the vital role of kinship care providers and celebrates their important contributions to the children, families and communities of Alabama;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 2023, as

## National Kinship Care Month

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 26th day of September 2023.

Kay Ivey, Governor