

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** May is designated as *National Foster Care Month* to recognize the well-being of children, youth, and families as the highest priority for this great state; and
- Whereas,** though West Virginia has experienced a steady decrease in the number of children in out-of-home placement, there are roughly 250 youth ages 0 to 21 in need of a foster home; and
- Whereas,** every struggling family deserves appropriate resources to strengthen families and prevent the removal of their children from their home, and resources to help return children as quickly and safely as possible when they must be removed; and
- Whereas,** kinship and resource/foster families across the state have stepped up to the challenge of caring for West Virginia children in foster care during their greatest time of need; and
- Whereas,** the preservation of families is the best support we can provide to children to prevent and limit the need for foster care; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia recognizes the need for collaboration between agencies, communities, and individuals to provide necessary resources for children and their parents to nurture healthy families; and
- Whereas,** The Great State of West Virginia expresses gratitude to those who tirelessly work and sacrifice to preserve families and ensure every child, youth, and family has the resources they need to thrive.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *May 2024* as:

Foster Care Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in observance.


In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the First day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State