



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, all of the 9,012 children in Alabama served in foster care in 2017 per the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), needed 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 fostering 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 license by 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 and health care providers on behalf of their foster children, while simultaneously balancing care of biological children, personal family dynamics, work, church and/or community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the experiences of most foster children are manifested in a variety of issues that often result in disrupted, multiple placements; and

WHEREAS, foster parents serve a much needed and vital role in our communities, and this is a great opportunity to raise awareness; not only about the need for more individuals to become foster parents, but also for more community support all throughout the year to help foster parents better ensure that foster children have a bright future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 31st, 2019, 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 8th day of May 2019.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor