

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, children and youth of Washington are our state's most precious resource and hope for the future; and

WHEREAS, there are nearly 8,100 children of all ages in Washington's foster care system who rely on foster and kinship families to open both their hearts and homes to them in a time of crisis; and

WHEREAS, there is no greater task than to ensure all children and youth in foster care find a safe harbor in the homes of nurturing families who provide a meaningful and supporting presence in their lives; and

WHEREAS, we applaud all social workers who work tirelessly to ensure the safety of our children and who support the positive contributions made by foster and kinship caregivers; and

WHEREAS, there is a great need for more foster families of diverse backgrounds from communities all across Washington; and

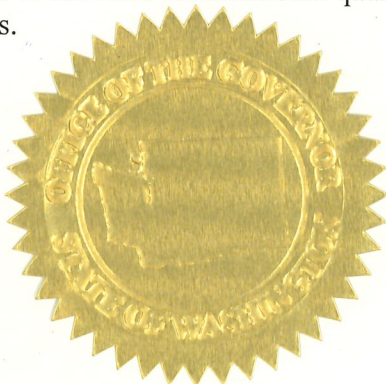
WHEREAS, the state of Washington joins individuals, communities, and public-private partnerships who work to recruit more foster families to meet the needs of children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the Seattle Mariners' 12 years of partnership through the We Are Family Day event which supports recruitment of foster, adoptive, and kinship caregivers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2020 as

Foster Care Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in an effort to raise public awareness of the need for additional qualified foster families and to offer support for our existing caregivers.



Signed this 14th day of May, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee