



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

***FOSTER CARE MONTH IN FLORIDA***

**WHEREAS, family is the foundation of our communities and our state and serves as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, and support; and**

**WHEREAS, all children and youth in foster care should have opportunities to make meaningful, lasting connections with adults who will support and encourage them; and**

**WHEREAS, Governor Ron DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis, proud parents of three children, are grateful for Florida families that open their homes to foster a child in need; and**

**WHEREAS, First Lady Casey DeSantis, as Chair of the Children and Youth Cabinet, strives to ensure that no child in Florida goes without a safe and loving home; and**

**WHEREAS, Florida has over 6,700 foster families that provide more than 8,150 children and youth with safe and stable homes; and**

**WHEREAS, throughout the duration of COVID-19, foster families are demonstrating resiliency and providing invaluable emotional support; and**

**WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Families has established a partnership with Camp Anderson, a Christian camp in Oldtown, to care for foster children who have been exposed to COVID-19; and**

**WHEREAS, many individuals and organizations have donated funds and other resources to help young people stay connected with their families and continue distance learning during this public health emergency; and**

**WHEREAS, 17 community-based care lead agencies throughout the state provide invaluable services to young people and families in the foster care system; and**

**WHEREAS, foster, kinship, and adoptive families, who open their homes and hearts to provide for children whose biological families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect thereby launching young people into successful adulthood; and**

**WHEREAS, Foster Care Month in Florida is an opportunity to increase public awareness of the needs of children in the foster care system and recognize the valuable role that foster parents play in the lives of our young people.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 2020 as *Foster Care Month in Florida*.**



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of May, in the year two thousand twenty.**

  
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Governor