



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

**FLORIDA ADOPTION MONTH**

**WHEREAS, adoption provides a unique opportunity to improve children's lives and enrich the lives of adoptive parents, their families, and their communities; and**

**WHEREAS, every child needs and deserves a loving, supportive, nurturing, and permanent family; and**

**WHEREAS, approximately 800 children are currently available for adoption without an identified adoptive family, including teenagers, sibling groups, and children with medical needs; and**

**WHEREAS, 4,197 children in Florida found forever families during Fiscal Year 2017-2018; and**

**WHEREAS, the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, the Florida Department of Children and Families, Community-Based Care Lead Agencies, Heart Galleries, state and local agencies, and organizations join together in November to raise awareness of foster care adoptions in Florida; and**

**WHEREAS, November 16, 2018, is National Adoption Day, and families and children across the nation and the great State of Florida will celebrate the joy of adoption on this day, and throughout the month, while remembering our children who are still dreaming of and hoping for a loving, permanent family of their own; and**

**WHEREAS, Florida will celebrate National Adoption Month and Florida Adoption Month through 30 Days of Amazing Children on the Explore Adoption website at [www.adoptflorida.org](http://www.adoptflorida.org); and**

**WHEREAS, adoptive families, including relatives and grandparents, who have already adopted may benefit from continued post-adoption support services in the days and years ahead;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing November 2018 as *Florida Adoption Month*.**



**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 3rd day of October, in the year two thousand eighteen.**

  
Governor