

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, children are key to our community's future success, prosperity and quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, children have a right to thrive, learn and grow in a safe and loving environment; and,

WHEREAS, foster parents provide the love, safety and stability that children need in order to overcome past traumatic experiences in order to reach their full potential; and,

WHEREAS, we must come together as a community to recognize the important role foster parents play in caring for children who have experienced abuse and neglect, supporting family reunification and building strong communities; and,

WHEREAS, there is always a need for more foster parents in order to ensure children — especially older youth, children with complex needs, and siblings — have a safe, stable home in their community; and,

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, nonprofit organizations and public servants who are dedicated to raising awareness about the needs of children and youth in foster care; and,

WHEREAS, through partnerships with families, child welfare staff, and public and private agencies, there is a collaborative effort to ensure that children are supported and successful.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lee County Board of Commissioners proclaim the month of May 2019 as *National Foster Care Month* in Lee County, North Carolina and call upon residents of all ages to observe this month by recognizing the important work and contributions foster families provide our community and by supporting foster families and the organizations that serve them in Lee County.

Dated this the 6th day of May, 2019.

Amy M. Dalrymple, Chair

Lee County Board of Commissioners