## **PROCLAMATION** DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY, 2019, AS FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, in 1988, President Reagan issued the first Presidential proclamation that established May as National Foster Care Month; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, the State of Florida implemented Community-Based Care to save time and financial resources and improve effectiveness in reaching foster care goals and outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the family -- serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, and support -- is the very foundation of our Indian River County community; and

**WHEREAS,** in Indian River County there are typically more than 140 children in foster care being provided with a safe, secure, and stable home by a compassionate, nurturing foster family; and

WHEREAS, foster families in Indian River County have opened their homes and hearts to children of families in crisis, playing a vital role in helping families heal, reconnect, and find permanency; and

WHEREAS, there is an on-going need for more foster homes in Indian River County to help launch children into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, the community should be made aware of the needs of children, as well as the enduring commitment and contribution of foster parents.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, does hereby proclaim the month of May, 2019, as "Foster Care Awareness Month" and urges all citizens to volunteer their time, talent and energy on behalf of foster children, foster parents, and professional staff engaged in this critical endeavor.

Adopted this 14th day of May, 2019.

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA

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