



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the youth of our state and nation are a precious resource and symbol of hope for the future, and we recognize that every child has the right to grow up in a safe, healthy, and stable home environment within a loving and supportive family; and

Whereas, although the number of children and youth in foster care continues to decline due to the efforts of local, state, and non-profit child welfare partnerships, there are still 19,000 children and youth who seek to be permanently placed in a nurturing home with a caring parent; and

Whereas, our state recognizes that children and youth in foster care have the right to participate in activities that are both age and developmentally appropriate, such as after-school activities, summer programs, and opportunities for gainful work experience; and

Whereas, New York has invested both financial and human resources in programs that are increasing permanency and improving well-being, reducing rates of re-entry into foster care, and helping young people in foster care transition to a brighter, more productive future; and

Whereas, children and youth in the foster care system should be treated with respect and receive care and services that do not discriminate based on race, creed, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, gender identity, or gender expression, sexual orientation, and physical or cognitive disability; and

Whereas, during Foster Care Month in May, we honor these dedicated New Yorkers who are answering the call to action and we mark this month by raising awareness of the need for mentors, volunteers, adoptive and foster parents to improve the lives of children and youth in foster care throughout New York State,

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

FOSTER CARE MONTH

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-eighth
day of April in the year two thousand fifteen.


Governor


Secretary to the Governor