

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



## PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, all children and youth deserve a safe, loving, and nurturing home so that they may grow, heal, and reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, for many children and youth, foster care provides essential stability during times of crisis and serves as a vital bridge to reunification, kinship care, or another path to permanency; and

WHEREAS, 11,197 children were placed in out-of-home care as of March 31, 2025, supported by dedicated resource families who open their homes and hearts to provide care, guidance, and hope for a brighter future; and

WHEREAS, resource parents, kinship caregivers, child welfare professionals, advocates, and community partners play a critical role in supporting the safety, well-being, and permanency needs of children and youth in foster care and should be recognized and honored; and

WHEREAS, despite many successes, there remains a need for increased awareness, community engagement, and supportive families to ensure that every child and youth in this Commonwealth has the opportunity to thrive; and

WHEREAS, it is important for private and public agencies, resource families, advocacy groups, civic and faith-based organizations, and businesses to work together to raise awareness of the needs of children and youth in foster care, to honor those who support them, and to help recruit additional resource families to ensure every child has a safe and nurturing home.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby recognize May 2026 as

### NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

I encourage all citizens across the Commonwealth to honor resource families, support children and youth in foster care, and help expand the number of resource families so that every child or youth in Pennsylvania has a safe, stable, and nurturing place to call home.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-eighth day of April two thousand twenty-six, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred fiftieth.

Governor Josh Shapiro