STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, children enter foster care through no fault of their own, and have a right to live in a safe, nurturing, and supportive family atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, the people of Arizona are known for their compassion and have a long-standing tradition of opening their hearts and homes to children and youth in need of a stable and caring atmosphere; and WHEREAS, there is a need to ensure that children of all ages have the opportunity to grow up in a family that will nurture, guide and love them, thereby launching young people into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, together as a state, we must raise awareness about this need and inspire people to step forward and invest in the lives of Arizona's youth and their families, through shared parenting and our foster care system; and

WHEREAS, together as a state, we must raise support for children experiencing foster care through volunteerism and charitable giving; and

WHEREAS, foster and kinship families – unsung heroes who open their homes and their hearts to support youth whose families are in crisis – play a vital role in helping children, youth, and families heal; and

WHEREAS, we offer the deepest gratitude and thanks to all who serve Arizona's youth as foster, adoptive and kinship parents, respite care providers, caseworkers, advocates, mentors, teachers, faith leaders, volunteers, and individuals dedicated to making a difference.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2020 as

FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH

and urge all citizens to do something positive to help improve the lives of children in foster care.

TRESTAL DATE OF THE STATE OF TH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-fourth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fourth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE