

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, each year, South Dakota renews its commitment to ensuring that all youth in foster care have loving and supportive caregivers that help provide resources needed for children to thrive; and,

Whereas, foster families open their hearts and homes. They care for children who are in crisis, provide them with security and stability, and play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reunify; and,

Whereas, most children in South Dakota's foster system are placed in family-like settings, and special care is taken to keep children received into the foster system within their communities and schools; and,

Whereas, foster parents work together with the child's permanency team to strengthen and maintain family relationships so children have meaningful and quality interactions with their family while in foster care; and,

Whereas, Governor Kristi Noem's Stronger Families Together initiative surpassed the first-year goal of 300 new foster families in South Dakota. Now, during the second year, the initiative continues to license new foster families who are generously willing and have shown they are fully capable of providing safe, stable, and permanent homes; and,

Whereas, the community approach of Stronger Families Together provides encouragement, support, and services for children in foster care and their families through partnerships with individuals and nonprofit organizations; and,

Whereas, families supporting families is a shared value in South Dakota and we celebrate the many ways families volunteer their time, energy, resources, and talents to support foster families during this month and throughout the year:

Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2023, as

FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION MONTH

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-eighth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

Kristi Noem
Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:

Monae L. Johnson
Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State