# *Executive Proclamation*
## *State of South Dakota*
## *Office of the Governor*

***Whereas***, Families serve as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, and support and they are the foundation of our communities, our state, and our nation; and,

***Whereas***, Many children and elderly residents reside with and/or are cared for by other family members, both formally and informally; and,

***Whereas***, Family members open their homes and hearts to provide a source of love, support, and belonging to their kin in times of need. They play a vital role in helping families remain strong and connected; and,

***Whereas***, Dedicated kinship families know no boundaries of race, creed, culture, or social status; and,

***Whereas***, There are numerous tribal, state, and local agencies who encourage and support kinship care and acknowledge the enduring and valuable contribution of kinship providers; and,

***Whereas***, September 2007 has been designated as South Dakota's First Annual Kinship Appreciation and Awareness Month:

***Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds***, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 2007 as

*KINSHIP APPRECIATION AND AWARENESS 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-ninth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

**Attest:**

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State