



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

***FLORIDA FOSTER FAMILY APPRECIATION WEEK***

**WHEREAS, foster families provide a unique opportunity to impact children's lives by providing care for children until they can be reunified with their families, or find a forever family; and**

**WHEREAS, children in foster care need and deserve a loving, supportive, nurturing, and quality foster family; and**

**WHEREAS, approximately 5,272 foster families are currently licensed throughout the State of Florida; and**

**WHEREAS, the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, Florida Department of Children and Families, community-based care lead agencies, Florida Foster and Adoptive Parent Association, state and local agencies, and communities join together to raise awareness of the need for quality foster families in Florida; and**

**WHEREAS, approximately 7,184 children in Florida live with foster families; and**

**WHEREAS, Florida Statutes designates the second week of February as Florida Foster Family Appreciation Week, to recognize the enduring and invaluable contributions foster parents provide to children in their care; and**

**WHEREAS, families and children across the great State of Florida will celebrate the impact that foster families have on children and families; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing February 12-18, 2018, as *Florida Foster Family Appreciation Week* and encourage all Floridians to consider opening their hearts and homes to children in this state who are in need of a quality foster family.**



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year two thousand eighteen.**

  
Governor