



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Forsyth County

MEETING DATE: May 6, 2021

Agenda Item: 6

**CONTRACT
NUMBER:**

STAFF CONTACT: John T Thacker, Division Director **DEPARTMENT:** Social Services

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 2021 AS FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH

ATTACHMENTS: [Resolution-2021-090 - Foster Care Awareness Month - Pdf](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each year, Foster Care Awareness is celebrated nationally during the month of May. Forsyth County Department of Social Services would like to bring awareness to the residents of Forsyth County about the needs of the foster care system.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 2021 AS FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity and support, is the foundation of our communities;

WHEREAS over 400,000 children are in the foster care system in the United States because their own families are in crisis and unable to provide for their essential safety and well-being needs;

WHEREAS foster families, who open their hearts and homes and offer help to children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children to heal, reconnect, and transition successfully into adulthood;

WHEREAS in Forsyth County, there were 240 children in foster care on April 1, 2021, being provided with a safe and stable home by licensed foster families, relatives and approved caretakers;

WHEREAS the needs of children in foster care results in a greater need for trained foster families, community partners and additional resources;

WHEREAS the Forsyth County Department of Social Services depends on the active support and involvement of the Forsyth County community to support the well-being needs of children in the foster care system;

WHEREAS the Family and Children's Division of the Forsyth County Department of Social Services continues to implement trauma informed practices to support the emotional, behavioral and well-being needs of children who have experienced abuse, neglect and dependency within their previous environments;

WHEREAS The Children's Home Society of North Carolina is a community agency that routinely partners with the Forsyth County Department of Social Services in training foster families and securing permanent homes for children and provides a variety of resources including community training, support for licensed foster families, recruitment of adoptive families and post adoption support services; and

WHEREAS the Forsyth County Department of Social Services acknowledges that the foster care system needs more compassionate foster and adoptive homes to ensure placement stability for children and to help them heal, therefore, ongoing partnerships on every level are critical to the success of the foster care system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the month of May, 2021 as Foster Care Awareness Month in Forsyth County and encourages all citizens and community partners to consider how they can assist with supporting the emotional, social and academic needs of children in the foster care system as they grow to become citizens in our community.

Adopted this 6th day of May 2021.

