



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

We cherish our young Texans and understand the importance of providing them with the care, guidance, and support they need to grow into healthy, successful adults. Our children represent the hard work of our past and the promise of our future, and ensuring they reach their full potential is one of the most important causes we can support. This is especially true for young Texans in foster care, who are among our state's most vulnerable children. We must continue working to ensure these children have the care and support they need to continue chasing their dreams.

When intervention and separation are unavoidable in family units, many different entities step in to provide safe, nurturing environments to young Texans in need, including dedicated individuals, families, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), and faith-based and community organizations. While we have always been committed to the health and unification of families and the futures of these young Texans, in recent years we have also committed to reforming our state's foster care system in order to better protect children and support families. In 2017, I was proud to sign several bills into law that allowed Child Protective Services (CPS) to place more children with relatives, increase capacity of foster homes by streamlining regulations, and move toward a community-based care system. First Lady Cecilia Abbott has also partnered with DFPS and launched the Network of Nurture, a community of families, friends, local leaders, nonprofit organizations, businesses, faith-leaders, and others willing to open their hearts or their homes to the children in the state's child welfare system.

In order to continue to support the children in our state's foster care system, the month of May is dedicated to raising awareness of high-quality foster care in Texas and highlighting the compassion of those who open their homes and give their efforts to children in need. As we continue to provide caregivers, parents, and children with the resources and services they need to thrive, these reforms and community-based networks will create lasting change in our foster care system and in the lives of many young Texans.

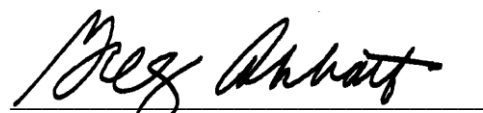
At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about foster care and how they may be able to help young Texans in need, and to join in celebrating the dedicated men and women of our foster care system who work tirelessly to improve the lives of many children throughout our state. By placing a spotlight on this system and the people who support it, we can help create a better and brighter future for our next generation of leaders, and, in turn, the Lone Star State.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim May 2021 to be

Foster Care Awareness Month

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
28th day of April, 2021.


Governor of Texas