

Mayor's Proclamation

FOSTER CARE MONTH May 2016

WHEREAS, the youth of Monroe County are our most precious resource and hope for the future, all children deserve a safe, loving and nurturing place to call home; and

WHEREAS, foster families are unsung heroes that serve as the primary source of love, protection, and support to the abused and neglected children of Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, foster families who open their homes and hearts to children who are in crisis play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect thereby launching children towards a successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 100 children and youth in the foster care system in Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals and public and private organizations who work tirelessly to increase public awareness of the needs of children in foster care as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents, and recognize that the foster care system is only as good as those who choose to be a part of it.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Heather Carruthers, Mayor of Monroe County, do hereby declare **May 2016** as

FOSTER CARE MONTH

in the Southernmost County of the Continental United States and encourage all Florida Keys residents to consider extending their family to include fostering some of our most vulnerable children.

Signed this 20th day of April, 2016.

Heather Carruthers, Mayor