State of New Jersey
Executive Department

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the family is our most important resource for providing New Jersey's children with love, dignity and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, more than four thousand children throughout our State are raised in kinship families with grandparent or relative caregivers who have stepped forward out of love and loyalty to care for their young relatives providing them a sense of connection, security and ties to their cultural heritage, family and community; and

WHEREAS, kinship caregivers reside in urban, rural and suburban households in every county of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, children, grandparents and other relatives in kinship families work in partnership with the education, legal, social services, mental health, justice and other systems to access services that can enable kinship youth to flourish in all facets of their lives; and

WHEREAS, Kinship Care Month provides an opportunity to showcase the accomplishments of countless youth throughout the Garden State who, with the unconditional support of grandparents and other relatives, have successfully navigated the emotional difficulties of separation from their parents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

SEPTEMBER 2015
AS
KINSHIP CARE MONTH

in New Jersey and encourage residents to raise awareness and understanding of the positive family environment that kinship families offer for many children.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this first day of September in the year two thousand fifteen, the two hundred fortieth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. Governor

Governor