STATE OF MONTANA

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, *Montana has the second highest number of children in foster care per capita in the United States, with more than 3,000 children in our foster care system and 463,000 children in foster care across the nation; and*

WHEREAS, *foster children have often tragically experienced neglect and abuse, and deserve to be raised in a safe, nurturing environment that promotes their health and wellbeing; and*

WHEREAS, *foster parents accept this important responsibility, welcoming foster children into their homes as they do their own, while still supporting family unification when possible; and*

WHEREAS, *working as a community to prevent child neglect and abuse and reduce the number of Montana children in foster care must be a priority to support the physical, emotional, social, and educational well-being of all children;*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, *Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim May 2021 to be*

FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Montana to support the children and parents in Montana's foster care system.

GREG GIANFORTE
Governor