

County of Humboldt Proclamation Adoption Awareness Month

WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a loving, nurturing and permanent family; and

WHEREAS, Adoption Awareness Month works to increase awareness and bring attention to the need for permanent families for children and youth in the foster care system; and

WHEREAS, securing lifelong nurturing connections for children and youth in foster care, both legally and emotionally, is a critical component in determining their future achievement, health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, adoptive parents can provide stable, loving families and a safe and comforting place for children in need; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), the Arcata Regional Adoption Office of the California Department of Social Services and Adoption Horizons, through their collaboration, acknowledge and place great importance on keeping adopted children with their siblings whenever possible and on keeping them connected to their birth families, communities, tribes and culture; and

WHEREAS, DHHS, in partnership with federally recognized tribes, welcomes the incorporation of cultural responsiveness and local tribal values when facilitating Tribal Customary Adoptions; and

WHEREAS, nearly 375 Humboldt County children and youth are currently placed in foster care and many of these children will need permanent adoptive homes, and research shows improved outcomes for children provided with the stability and permanency that adoption can offer; and

WHEREAS, DHHS has a critical need for homes for children in the foster care system, including adoptive and permanent caregivers willing to support sibling groups, older children and teens; and

WHEREAS, DHHS, the Arcata Regional Adoption Office of the California Department of Social Services, and Adoption Horizons partner to provide on-going assistance and support both to families who are waiting to adopt children and to families who have completed adoptions by providing these families with guidance, education and support; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes November 2020 as Adoption Awareness Month and urges its citizens to celebrate and support the diversity and richness of our adoptive families who provide these special children a place to call home.

November 17, 2020

Estelle Fennell, Chair

