STATE OF OKLAHOMA

FILED
MAY 16 2011
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, *there are more than 8,000 children and youth in foster care in Oklahoma, through no fault of their own, that deserves a stable home, a devoted family, and a place where they can feel secure and thrive; and*

Whereas, *across Oklahoma, despite the fact there are numerous families that have opened their homes to these children and are dedicated to making a difference in their lives, there are still not enough homes to meet the current needs. As a state, we all have a responsibility to remain persistent in the charge to provide the best care possible for children when they cannot remain in their own homes; and*

Whereas, *permanence is critical to the future success of youth in foster care and is a key component of Oklahoma's foster care initiatives; and*

Whereas, *we must continually renew our commitment to ensuring a brighter future for our youth in foster care and we celebrate the selfless individuals who make a meaningful difference in their lives; and*

Whereas, *we recognize the efforts of Bridge Resource (foster) families, child welfare professionals, faith-based and community partners, Native American tribes, and others that are improving the lives of young people in foster care across our state;*

Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, *Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim May, 2011 as*

"Foster Care Month"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.*

38658

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 12th *day of* May, *in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and* eleven, *and of the State of Oklahoma in the* one hundred and third *year.*

Michelle R Day
SECRETARY OF STATE

Mary Fallin
GOVERNOR