

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** each November, foster care and adoption entities nationwide implement activities, awareness programs, and other efforts to help build awareness for the thousands of children who are in foster care awaiting adoption; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia is committed to educating every citizen about the need for adoptive parents statewide when foster children cannot be safely reunified with their parents; and
- Whereas,** every child in West Virginia deserves love, support, security, and a family to help them fulfill a happy and productive life; and
- Whereas,** there are nearly 6,200 children in West Virginia's foster care system waiting to achieve permanency; and
- Whereas,** for some children, permanency will come in the form of adoption when they cannot safely return to their birth families; and
- Whereas,** by providing a safe and nurturing environment for our children we can ensure they can reach their full potential as the next generation of West Virginia leaders, helping to secure the future of our state; and
- Whereas,** the collaboration of both public and private adoption agencies, including the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Mission WV, community agencies, religious organizations, businesses, resource/foster families, and others should be recognized for their commitment to the needs of children in West Virginia; and
- Whereas,** adoptive parents, children, and families require and deserve community and public recognition, respect, and support.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *November 2023* as:

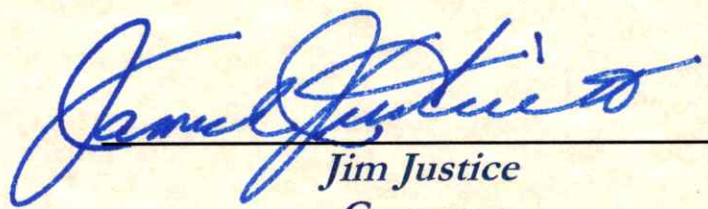
### *Adoption Awareness Month*

In the State of West Virginia, I urge all citizens to change a life by sharing their hearts, opening their homes, and offering help to waiting foster children, adoption agencies, and the Adoption Social Services Staff working with them during this month and throughout the year.

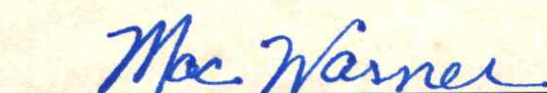
**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-Sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixty-First year of the State.



  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State