## STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, all children need the care, love, security, and stability of family unity, including parents, siblings, grandparents, and other extended family members to provide a solid foundation for personal growth, development, and maturity; and

WHEREAS, whenever possible and without sacrificing child safety, keeping Arizona families together is an important goal for our communities, and is the best option for a permanent, safe and, loving home for many children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, reunification takes work, commitment, and investment of time and resources by parents, family members, social workers, foster parents, service providers, attorneys, courts, educators, and the community; and

WHEREAS, for many years a number of jurisdictions in the United States have been celebrating the accomplishments of families who have overcome an array of challenges to reunify safely and successfully; and

WHEREAS, Family Reunification Day, June 2nd, 2018, is an opportunity to recognize families who have successfully overcome the challenges that brought their children into out-of-home care.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim June 2018 as

## ARIZONA FAMILY REUNIFICATION MONTH

and call upon the people of Arizona to acknowledge the importance of supporting families and communities with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I further encourage child welfare agencies, courts, schools, businesses, media, faith community, civic, and service organizations to join me in commemorating Arizona Family Reunification Month.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this ninth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Second.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

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