

In Recognition of National Foster Care Month

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our communities and our State; and

WHEREAS, in Florida more than 8,000 children and youth in foster and licensed care are provided with a safe, secure and stable home along with the compassion and nurturing of a foster family; and

WHEREAS, all young people in foster care need a meaningful connection to a caring adult who becomes a supportive and lasting presence in their lives; and

WHEREAS, foster, kinship and adoptive families, who open their homes and hearts and support children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect thereby launching young people into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, public and private organizations who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents, and the foster care system is only as good as those who choose to be part of it.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim **May, 2013** as:

National Foster Care Month

in the city of Fort Lauderdale and do encourage our citizens to make Fort Lauderdale a “foster friendly” city and help to ensure that every child has a home.

DATED this, the 7th day of May 2013.

**John P. “Jack” Seiler
Mayor**

