

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, families are central to the well-being of our communities, state and nation and children are the future of society; and

**WHEREAS**, the care, nurturing and protection of children have been traditionally the responsibility of biological parents with support from other family members and the community; and

**WHEREAS**, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins and other kin, are stepping forward in ever-increasing numbers to assume fulltime parental responsibility for children whose parents are unable or unwilling to nurture, protect and appropriately parent their children; and

**WHEREAS**, while these relative headed families face enormous personal day-to-day living challenges as they focus on insuring the children in their care experience structure, accountability, encouragement, affection, safety and age appropriate expectations; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of this commitment, the home provided for many of these children becomes their 'forever' home and their relatives become moms and dads in the truest sense; and

**WHEREAS**, the significant care and nurturing of these children by their relatives deserves to be recognized;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 20, 2015 as

### *Kinship Caregiver Day*

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

