

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 ensuring 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 17, 2017 as

Kinship Caregiver Day

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

Signed this 24th day of February, 2017

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.
Governor Jay Inslee