

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

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

*WHEREAS*, traditionally, the care, nurturing, and protection of children have been 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 that 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 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as

### *Kinship Caregiver Day*

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

Signed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2021

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee

