

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 21 OF 2021

WHEREAS, every day in Centre County, local children are at risk of child abuse and neglect or have been removed from their homes due to such abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the challenging task of investigating child abuse, assessing safety, and providing services to ensure that the children of Centre County are provided with nurturance, family connections, support as they transition into adulthood, and services that allow a child to remain safely in their home or return home as expeditiously as possible falls to the professionals of Centre County's child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals work in difficult and emotional situations with children who have been victimized by physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and other forms of maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, they develop great skill in working with those who are in crisis situations and have substantial knowledge surrounding the rights of families, the laws surrounding child welfare, and the legal processes governing the system; and

WHEREAS, these professionals selflessly undertake the endeavor to protect Pennsylvania's children, often with long hours, tremendous demands, little appreciation, great criticism, and with dramatic impacts to their personal life; and

WHEREAS, the work of the child welfare professionals of Centre County requires them to take on the role of frontline essential workers in the time of a global pandemic and provide services to the families of Centre County despite the risk to the professional's health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus epidemic has created substantial challenges in providing child welfare services to which the staff of child welfare rose most proficiently; and

WHEREAS, innumerable injuries and deaths of children in Centre County have been averted due to the efforts of Centre County Children and Youth Services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim **June 7-11, 2021** as "**Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week**" in Centre County and hereby recognize the staff of Centre County Children and Youth Services for their dedicated efforts in protection of the children of Centre County.

ADOPTED this 8th day of June 2021.



CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray

Margaret N. Gray, Administrator