

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 30 OF 2023

WHEREAS, the week of June 5-9, 2023 has been proclaimed as Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week by Governor Shapiro, recognizing the efforts of child welfare professionals serving the children of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, every day in Centre County, children are at risk of child abuse and neglect or have been removed from their homes due to such abuse and neglect and Pennsylvania recognizes the risks and the need to protect the children in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the challenging task of investigating child abuse, providing services to families, assessing safety, and providing services to ensure that Centre County's children 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 child welfare professionals of the Centre County 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 which may put them in situations in which their personal safety may be put at risk; and

WHEREAS, the professionals of Centre County must develop great skill in working with families who are in crisis situations, struggling with mental health challenges, suffering from drug and alcohol afflictions, poverty, and other difficult issues; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals must develop substantial knowledge and skills surrounding the rights of families, the laws surrounding child welfare, how to develop culturally sensitive services, and the legal processes governing the system; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals selflessly undertake the endeavor to protect Centre County's children, often with long hours, tremendous demands, and with dramatic impacts to their personal life; and

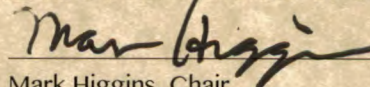
WHEREAS, the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and changes to the economic picture has created substantial challenges in the recruitment and retention of staff of child welfare agencies, while the workload has continued to increase; and

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

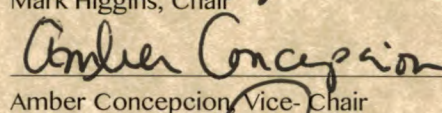
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners proclaim **June 5-9, 2023** as **Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week** in Centre County and recognizes the efforts of Centre County Children and Youth Services serving the children of Centre County,

ADOPTED this 8th day of June 2023.

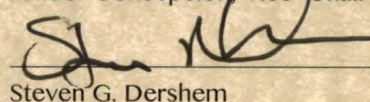
CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Mark Higgins, Chair

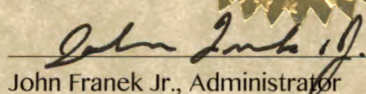


Amber Concepcion, Vice-Chair



Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:



John Franek Jr., Administrator

