

FORSYTH COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 12, 2020 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION DECLARING NOVEMBER 2020 AS ADOPTION AWARENESS
MONTH IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
(FORSYTH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES)**

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

ATTACHMENTS: Yes No

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: November 09, 2020
COUNTY MANAGER

**RESOLUTION DECLARING NOVEMBER 2020 AS ADOPTION AWARENESS
MONTH IN FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
(FORSYTH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES)**

WHEREAS Forsyth County recognizes the importance of giving children in foster care permanent, safe and loving families through adoption;

WHEREAS every child deserves the chance to grow up in a stable family environment;

WHEREAS more than 100,000 children in the United States are in the foster care system and are waiting to be adopted;

WHEREAS more than 11,000 children in North Carolina are waiting for permanent families;

WHEREAS more than 230 children in Forsyth County are in foster care, 35 of whom are legally free for adoption and of that number 13 children are in need of a permanent home and are currently awaiting an adoptive family;

WHEREAS in Forsyth County approximately 45% of the children who need adoptive homes are five years of age and under, 31% are between six and twelve years of age, and another 24% are between thirteen and eighteen years of age, and many of the children are siblings and need to be placed together;

WHEREAS the Forsyth County Department of Social Services works with multiple community partners to secure permanent and adoptive homes for children in Forsyth County and the surrounding communities, and one of Forsyth County's primary focus is to support children and families to achieve permanency while assisting children and families in need of quality services;

WHEREAS Forsyth County Department of Social Services has developed strong partnerships with the judicial system, local mental health providers, law enforcement agencies, faith-based organizations, and placement providers within the community; and

WHEREAS this action along with similar recognitions in all 50 states will bring awareness to the need for more adoptive families and will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby declares November 2020 as Adoption Awareness Month in Forsyth County, North Carolina.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the residents of Forsyth County are encouraged to join in raising awareness on behalf of the children in Forsyth County who are waiting for a loving family regardless of race, age, gender, health, emotional or behavioral condition, or past distress.

Adopted this 12th day of November 2020.