

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

May 1, 2012

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: CANDACE A. SHIVELY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: NATIONAL FOSTER CARE APPRECIATION MONTH

## DISCUSSION:

May is National Foster Care Appreciation Month. The Children's Division has the opportunity to recognize and thank the individuals and families who open their hearts, homes and lives to parent the approximately 10,750 youth in foster care in Missouri. These 4,770 professional resource providers and volunteer relative and kinship families have opened their homes to provide loving and nurturing temporary care for children and youth whose own parents are unable to do so. Many take that commitment further by providing permanent homes through adoption. In recognition of their tireless service, Governor Jay Nixon will sign a proclamation declaring May to be Foster Care Month in Missouri.

Local circuits are encouraged to acknowledge the vital contribution of our resource providers by planning events to show recognition of the commitment and valuable services that the surrogate parents of children and youth in foster care provide. Circuit Managers are encouraged to post events on the [Children's Division Internet page](#), and the [National Foster Care Month](#) event page, by contacting Elizabeth Tattershall in Central Office.

A [Foster Parent Appreciation Tool Kit](#) is located on the intranet in the Resource Development file. [National Foster Care Month](#) also has a helpful web site with ideas and resources to honor our resource providers. Free items may be ordered such as lapel pins and posters. The *Change a Lifetime* logo may be included on email correspondence. Recognition of National Foster Care Appreciation Month is posted on the Heart Gallery and Older Youth Facebook.

Although the Children's Division cannot solicit donations to support our endeavors to honor our resource providers, community groups and businesses may be willing to donate to events they know benefit children and/or resource parents. When they know there is a need, they may ask what they can do to assist.

<b>What's Inside:</b> National Foster Care Appreciation Month
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As a Children’s Division employee, your efforts to recruit, license, and support our resource providers is appreciated. Thank you for all you do to insure there are appropriate resource homes to place our youth and children in out of home care. The efforts of all CD staff to see our vision of safety, health and well being for every Missouri child are appreciated and valued.



<b>NECESSARY ACTION</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff.</li> <li>2. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:</li> </ol>	
<b>PDS CONTACT</b> Elizabeth Tattershall 573-522-1191 <a href="mailto:Elizabeth.Tattershall@dss.mo.gov">Elizabeth.Tattershall@dss.mo.gov</a>	<b>PROGRAM MANAGER</b> Dena Driver 573-751-3171 <a href="mailto:Dena.D.Driver@dss.mo.gov">Dena.D.Driver@dss.mo.gov</a>
<b>CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS</b>	
N/A	
<b>FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS</b>	
N/A	
<b>REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES</b>	
N/A	
<b>RELATED STATUTE</b>	
N/A	
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE RULE</b>	
N/A	
<b>COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS</b>	
N/A	
<b>CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR)</b>	
N/A	
<b>PROTECTIVE FACTORS N/A</b>	
Parental Resilience Social Connections Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development Concrete Support in Times of Need	

Social and Emotional Competence of Children

**FACES REQUIREMENTS**

N/A