



In the Name and by the Authority of  
**THE STATE OF**  
**OHIO**



**WHEREAS**, the number of grandparents and kinship caregivers who are raising their grandchildren and other relative children is not a new phenomenon, the statistics show that it is a situation that is becoming more and more common. In Ohio, many children are fortunate to be cared for by their grandparents or kinship caregivers when their parents are unable to care for them. Kinship caregivers may be relatives, such as grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, siblings, or even neighbors or family friends; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Census Bureau's most recent American Community Survey that provides information on grandparents living with their grandchildren, 2.7 million grandparents in the United States were raising their grandchildren and about 39 percent have cared for their grandchildren for five years or more; and

**WHEREAS**, in Ohio, 227,862 children under the age of 18 live in homes where the householders are grandparents or other relatives (8.9 percent of children in the state) and of these, 185,469 live with grandparents (7.0 percent of children in the state) and 42,393 live with other relatives (1.6 percent of children in the state); and

**WHEREAS**, 99,877 children live in homes with grandparent householders where grandparents are responsible for them and of these children 39,723 (39.8%) do not have parents present; and

**WHEREAS**, we commend Ohio's supportive statewide network that is increasing awareness of resources available to grandparents and kinship caregivers; from the state and county agencies serving these caregivers to the Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition to kinship navigator programs to the Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice to the Public Children Services Association of Ohio to the Ohio Family Care Association, we thank you for serving the specific and unique needs facing caregivers raising their relative children. We should all continue to recognize and assist these caregivers who are giving selflessly of themselves to improve the quality of life for the children they are raising.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, *We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio*, do hereby recognize September 2020 as

## GRANDPARENT / KINSHIP MONTH

on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 2020.

Mike DeWine  
Governor



Jon Husted  
Lieutenant Governor