



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, 2.3 million grandparents in the United States were raising their grandchildren and about 16 percent have cared for their grandchildren for five years or more; and

WHEREAS, in Ohio, 238,921 children under the age of 18 live in homes where the householders are grandparents or other relatives and of these, 216,000 live with grandparents; and

WHEREAS, 86,502 children live in homes with grandparent householders where grandparents are responsible for them and 40,069 (19 percent) have cared for their grandchildren for five years or more; 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 Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program and other kinship navigator programs to the Ohio Federation for Health Equity and Social Justice to the 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, *We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio*, do hereby recognize September 2021 as

GRANDPARENT / KINSHIP MONTH

on this 1st day of September 2021.

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor