

## HONORARY PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 2025 AS "NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH"

**WHEREAS,** the County of San Luis Obispo is committed to ensuring all children have safe, stable, and loving homes when they cannot remain with their biological families; and

**WHEREAS,** more than 420,000 children nationwide, including over 28,000 in California, are currently in the foster care system; and

WHEREAS, over 200 children and youth in the County of San Luis Obispo are in foster care; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Social Services continues to actively recruit more resource families to ensure children have nurturing homes in which they can heal, grow, and thrive; and

WHEREAS, National Foster Care Month recognizes the critical role of resource families in providing nurturing, stable homes and highlights the ongoing need for more families to support local children; and

**WHEREAS**, this month-long effort which is mirrored across all 50 states and the District of Columbia, celebrates resource families and encourages more individuals to positively impact a child's life through foster care; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo proclaimed May as "National Foster Care Month".

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that I, Caren Ray Russom, Mayor of the City of Arroyo Grande, do hereby proclaim May as "**National Foster Care Month**" in the City of Arroyo Grande and encourage all residents to join in raising awareness and supporting foster care and resource families in our community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Arroyo Grande to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

CAREN RAY RUSSOM, MAYOR