

HONORARY PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 2023 AS "NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH"

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande recognizes the importance of providing children safe, healthy and loving homes when they are unable to remain in the home of their biological family; and

WHEREAS, more than 420,000 children in the United States; 28,000 children in California; and over 250 children, youth, and teenagers in the County of San Luis Obispo are in the foster care system; and

WHEREAS, to help these children have a healthy, loving and stable home environment where they can thrive and feel connected to a community that cares for them, and to support the resource families that provide these critical homes, the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services is acknowledging National Foster Care Month to raise awareness about the need for more resource family homes in our County and City for local children and join other organizations to celebrate resource families in our community; and

WHEREAS, this effort will offer children the chance to live with healthy, loving and stable resource families when they cannot live with their birth families, and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through resource family care.

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" and in so doing, urge all citizens to join in a national effort to raise awareness about the importance of foster care and resource family care.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Arroyo Grande to be affixed this 25th day of April 2023.

CAREN RAY RUSSOM, MAYOR

