



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

Whereas, New York State is steadfast in its commitment to promoting the safety and well-being of our children, and this includes providing a stable household for all youth in which they can be nurtured and succeed; and

Whereas, more than 150,000 children throughout our state are raised in kinship families with grandparent or relative caregivers who have stepped forward out of love and loyalty to care for their young relatives, providing them with a sense of connection, security, and ties to their cultural heritage, their family, and their community; and

Whereas, kinship families in New York State have a valuable resource in the Kinship Navigator, which provides information, referrals, and assistance via its website and toll free telephone line; and

Whereas, kinship caregivers reside in urban, rural, and suburban neighborhoods and regions across New York State, and children, grandparents, and other relatives in kinship families face certain challenges; therefore, partnerships among the education, legal, social services, mental health, justice, and other systems are important for ensuring access to services that can enable kinship youth to flourish in all facets of their lives; and

Whereas, Kinship Care Month provides an opportunity to showcase the accomplishments of countless youth throughout our state and nation who, with the unconditional support of grandparents and other relatives, have successfully navigated the emotional difficulties of separation from their parents; all New Yorkers are encouraged to raise their awareness and understanding of the positive family environment that kinship families offer for many children;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 2014 as

## KINSHIP CARE MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-seventh day of August in the year two thousand fourteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor