The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 20 OF 2018

WHEREAS, every day in Centre County children are at risk of child abuse and neglect or have been removed from their homes due to such abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the hard work of investigating child abuse, assessing safety and initiating steps to protect children, and providing services to families to assure that Centre County's children are provided with healthy and nurturing care, support as they transition into adulthood, and the necessary services for family reunification falls onto the child welfare professionals; and

WHEREAS, to be successful, child welfare professionals must develop great skill in working with families who are in crisis situations, struggling with mental health challenges, suffering from drug and alcohol afflictions, poverty, and other difficult issues; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals must develop substantial knowledge and skills surrounding the rights of families, laws surrounding child welfare, and the legal processes governing the system; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals selflessly undertake the endeavor to protect our children, often with risks to their personal safety, low pay, long hours, tremendous demands, little appreciation and great criticism, and with dramatic impacts to their personal life; and

WHEREAS, innumerable injuries and deaths of children have been averted due to the efforts of our child welfare professionals;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED in special recognition of the efforts of the child welfare professionals serving the children of Centre County, the Centre County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of June 4-8, 2018 as “Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week”.

ADOPTED this 5th day of June of 2018.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Michael Pipe, Chair

Mark Higgins, Vice-Chair

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray, Administrator/Chief Clerk