## 2024 RES-009 RECOGNIZING MAY AS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

**WHEREAS,** Dane County recognizes that kids flourish when supported by families who provide love, identity, and hope; and

**WHEREAS,** over 7,000 children are currently living in foster care in Wisconsin, and demand persists for more foster families to provide caring and supportive homes during difficult periods in the lives of kids and families; and

**WHEREAS**, at any given time, Dane County has 40-50 teenagers who need a foster home who are then placed in temporary foster homes or more restrictive placements such as group homes and shelters and studies show that teens placed in foster care are less likely to return to care and have more successful outcomes than youth placed in more restrictive settings; and

WHEREAS, the foster care system experiences the same racial disparities persistent throughout Dane County with African American children being overrepresented in numbers of children who go missing in out of home care and their length of stay in the foster care system; and

**WHEREAS,** foster families open their hearts and homes by caring for kids whose families are in crisis, playing a vital role in their healing process, empowering them to see a future of limitless potential, providing security and stability, and contributing to their healthy growth into adulthood; and

**WHEREAS,** each day, thousands of professionals in public, private, and tribal agencies work together to support kids and families with the resources and support, they need and deserve; and

**WHEREAS,** this month, Dane County joins all of those involved with foster care and recognizes their steadfast devotion to the safety, stability, and well-being of kids and families year-round.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the Dane County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim May 2024 as National Foster Care Month.

Patrick Miles, Chair Dane County Board of Supervisor

Signed and sealed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Scott McDonell, Dane County Clerk