

Lake County, Ohio

Lake County Board of Commissioners
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## PRESS RELEASE

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## **Lake County Commissioners Declare November as National Adoption Month**

National Adoption Month is recognized annually in November throughout the nation as a time to raise awareness about the urgent need for adoptive families for children and youth in foster care. At any given time, over 16,000 children in Ohio are being cared for away from their parents. While most of these children will eventually be reunited with biological family members, more than 3,000 children in the State of Ohio are currently waiting to be adopted and nearly 1,400 of them are teenagers.

Lake County currently has 46 licensed adoption homes and have completed 11 adoptions in the last year. "Every child has the inherent right to grow up in a safe, permanent, loving family and we are indebted to the individuals and families in our community who have become adoptive parents," said Lake County Department of Job and Family Services Director Suzanne Casar.

The Lake County Department of Job and Family Services is fortunate to receive continued support and recognition from the Lake County Commissioners each November and this year has been no different. During their November 4, 2021 meeting, the Lake County Commissioners graciously passed a resolution declaring November 2021 as National Adoption Month in Lake County.

"Adoption continues to be seen as the best way to provide permanent care to children whose biological parents are not able to care for them," said Commissioner John Hamercheck.

"Lake County is so proud to recognize November as National Adoption Month, because no thanks is sufficient for the unconditional love and support shared by adoptive parents," said Commissioner John Plecnik. "In a word, adoptive parents are saints and we want to recognize the enormous difference they make in our local community."

Commissioner Ron Young expressed his "respect and gratitude for the adoptive parents who share their homes and hearts with children in need. Many of these adoptive parents are motivated by God's love and I deeply appreciate their willingness to share that love."

The Lake County Department of Job and Family Services works diligently to ensure safe and loving homes for Lake County's children. If you are interested in learning about foster care and adoption, you can call our hotline at 440-350-4218, access our website at www.lakecountyohio.gov or send us an e-mail at Eugene.Tetrick@jfs.ohio.gov.

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