



Board of Commissioners

PRESS RELEASE

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May is National Foster Parent Recognition Month in Lake County

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, May 4, 2023– For over 30 years now, the U.S. government has issued annual proclamations in recognition of National Foster Care Month, celebrated in May, to show appreciation and gratitude to foster parents across the nation. Foster parents are those people in our community who step forward and provide safe haven for children when they cannot remain in their home of origin.

Lake County currently has 46 licensed foster families who are able to care for children of all ages. Lake County also works with relatives and kin who have opened up their homes to children in need of care.

May is a time to recognize these unsung heroes in our community. “We are extremely grateful to our foster parents who do their best to provide consistent, safe and healthy environments for children to grow and thrive. Foster parents are often faced with extremely challenging situations, and we appreciate the collaboration between our foster parents and staff members,” said Job and Family Services Director Suzanne Casar.



From the left: Commissioner John Plecnik, Job and Family Services Director Suzanne Casar, Eugene Tetrick, Commissioner Richard J. Regovich, Commission President John R. Hamercheck.

Lake County Department of Job and Family Services is fortunate to receive continued support and recognition from the Lake County Commissioners each May and this year has been no different. During their May 4, 2023 meeting, the Lake County Commissioners graciously passed a resolution declaring May as Foster Parent Recognition Month in Lake County.

“Foster parents make such a difference in the lives of children in the child welfare system. Today, and every day, we must recognize the dedication and care foster parents provide children in Lake County. Every child has the inherent right to grow up in a safe, permanent and loving family, so thank you for providing them safe and stable homes,” said Commission President John R. Hamercheck.

Annually, Lake County recognizes and celebrates foster parents and their service to the county by hosting an annual appreciation dinner. If you know a foster parent in your community, please take a moment this month to thank them for their service to their county and most of all to the children they bring into their homes.

“I have said it before and I will say it again, foster parents are Saints. We recognize and celebrate the essential role foster parents play in the healing, development and success of the children and youth in their care. Fostering is all about making connections and maintaining healthy relationships with the children to ensure they are comfortable while living in their homes,” said Commissioner John Plecnik.

“There is a growing number of individuals and families becoming foster parents in our community and I encourage anyone who is interested to contact the Foster Care and Adoption Hotline,” said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a foster parent, please contact our Foster Care and Adoption Hotline at 440-350-4218.

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