

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH NOVEMBER 2024

WHEREAS, all North Dakotans recognize that children and teens deserve a family that can provide security support, unconditional love and a place to call home; and

WHEREAS, each November we celebrate adoptive families who welcome children and teens into stable and loving families and child welfare professionals and public and private child-serving organizations that ensure North Dakota's children are thriving in safe, nurturing environments; and

WHEREAS, last year 245 adoptions of children from foster care took place in North Dakota, with additional adoptions of infants, internationally born children and children being adopted by their stepparents; and

WHEREAS, approximately 25 children in foster care in North Dakota are currently waiting for an adoptive family to be identified for them, and many children in foster care have identified families who are in the process of adopting them; and

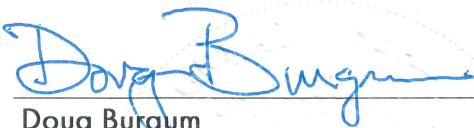
WHEREAS, National Adoption Month also features National Adoption Day on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024, when court staff, child welfare professionals and families will come together in three communities in North Dakota to finalize adoptions of approximately 30 children in foster care and celebrate adoptive families; and

WHEREAS, supportive and committed relationships are especially critical in helping children and older teens prepare and succeed as they enter adulthood, and National Adoption Month encourages teens to get involved by telling their stories about foster care and adoption with the hope of educating their peers and communicating about the importance of permanency; and

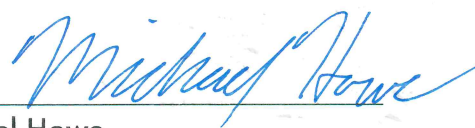
WHEREAS, the North Dakota Post Adopt Network provides a continuum of support to meet the needs of all families following an adoption, with services that include crisis response, mentoring, in-person and online support groups and other educational supports; and in state fiscal year 2024, post-adoption workers served 630 families.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
November 2024, ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE