

Resolution



ORDER NO: 2018-1283

DATE: November 6, 2018

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 6th day of November, 2018, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by Mike Cantrell, Commissioner of District 2, the following Resolution was adopted:

National Adoption Day

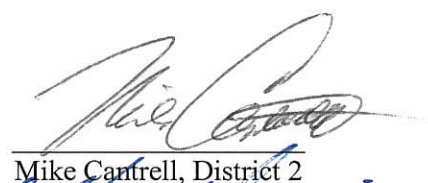
- WHEREAS**, November is National Adoption Awareness Month and includes National Adoption Day, a collective, national effort to raise awareness of more than 117,000 children in foster care waiting for permanent and loving families; and
- WHEREAS**, The Dallas County Child Welfare Board wishes to celebrate the love and generosity of adoptive families and to appreciate the work of those who help find and support permanent and loving families for children who are in foster care and cannot safely return home; and
- WHEREAS**, Since its inception, National Adoption Day, celebrated the Saturday before Thanksgiving, has seen nearly 70,000 children in 410 communities across the United States be adopted. In 2017 nearly 5,000 children in foster care were adopted by their forever families as part of National Adoption Day; and
- WHEREAS**, Dallas County established its annual adoption day in the year 2000 with the assistance of Commissioner Mike Cantrell, and will be continued with Commissioner Theresa Daniel. Since its inception, more than 1,400 Dallas County children in foster care have been adopted by their forever families as part of National Adoption Day. In fiscal year 2018, 329 Dallas County children in state protective care were adopted and at year-end 484 Dallas County children were awaiting adoption; and
- WHEREAS**, The Dallas County Adoption Preparation Unit works to select adoptive families and prepare them and the children for the realities of adoption. Profiles of children are broadcast on the Texas Adoption Resource Exchange (TARE) and featured on Wednesday's Child, and children attend match parties with their caseworkers; and
- WHEREAS**, The Dallas County Adoption Preparation Unit reports the average length of time from termination of parental rights to adoptive placement is two and a half years. Nationally the time for a child in foster care to be adopted averages nearly three years, but there are more than 20,000 children who age out of foster care each year with no family or permanent home; and
- WHEREAS**, The 2018 National Adoption Day will take place in Dallas on Saturday, November 17. The event is organized by the Dallas County Adoption Preparation Unit and Dallas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates.) Thanks go to the Dallas County Juvenile, Marshal, District Clerk and Sheriff's Department staff, and the volunteers from the Dallas County Child Welfare Board. We give special thanks to Judges Ken Molberg, Mary Brown and Jim Jordan for volunteering their time.

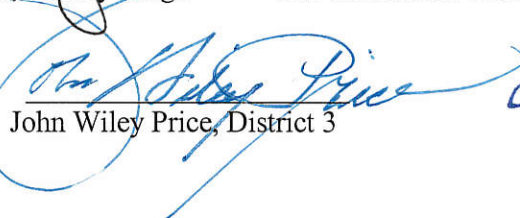
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Commissioners Court of Dallas County does hereby recognize and celebrate November 17th, 2018 as **National Adoption Day**. We also recognize that by working with policymakers, practitioners and advocates to finalize adoptions and create and celebrate adoptive families, **National Adoption Day makes dreams come true**.

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 6th day of November, 2018.


Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1


Mike Cantrell, District 2


John Wiley Price, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4