

**WHEREAS,** there are more than 400,000 children and youth in the foster care system in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** there are more than 5,000 children in the foster care system in Kansas and around 1,000 from Sedgwick County in Youthville's care; and

**WHEREAS,** there is an urgent need for foster families to care for teenagers, those with special needs and sibling groups; and

**WHEREAS,** there are more than 150 Youthville licensed foster homes in Sedgwick County and approximately 350 throughout Kansas; and

**WHEREAS,** Sedgwick County shows immense appreciation to all foster parents in this community for their selflessness, courage and dedication to helping children in need.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May as

**“NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH”**

which marks a time to acknowledge the youth, family members, foster parents, volunteers, mentors, community members, child welfare professionals, and policymakers who help children and youth in foster care find permanent homes and connections. During National Foster Care Month, we renew our commitment to ensuring a bright future for foster youth, and we celebrate all those who make a meaningful difference in their lives.

May 16, 2012