

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County recognizes the importance of giving children permanent, safe and loving families through adoption; and

WHEREAS, today there are approximately 450 Kansas children who are waiting to be adopted, which is a small portion of the more than 110,000 children nationally who need matched with a loving adoptive family; and

WHEREAS, some children who wait the longest for an adoptive family are those who have suffered abuse and/or neglect, and may have medical, emotional, and/or developmental needs; and

WHEREAS, brothers and sisters who are separated in the foster care system yearn to be adopted by the same family; and

WHEREAS, many older youth living in foster care feel they may be too old to be adopted, yet they want a sense of belonging that adoptive parents can provide; and

WHEREAS, adoption brings unique opportunities to forever transform a child's life and enrich the life of the adoptive parent or family that welcomes them; and

WHEREAS, National Adoption Month events will be taking place around the state, including an event where 35 children and teens will be adopted in a special ceremony on November 18, 2017 held at Exploration Place;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, David Unruh, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim November 2017 as

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

In Sedgwick County in the hopes that the people of this great state will open their homes and adopt Kansas children from the foster care system.

November 8, 2017