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Proclamation

Issued by the Mayor

Foster Care Month May 2003

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our communities and our City; and

WHEREAS, in California, there are 98,000 children and youth in foster care and in Sacramento there are 5,600 children and youth in foster care being provided with a safe, secure and stable home, along with the compassion and nurture of a foster family or residential placement; and

WHEREAS, foster families, who open their homes and hearts to children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect and launching children into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals and public and private organizations who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Heather Fargo, Mayor of the City of Sacramento, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2003 as **Foster Care Month** in the City of Sacramento and urge all citizens to volunteer their talents and energies on behalf of children in foster care, foster parents and the child welfare professional staff working with them during this month and throughout the year.

Heather Fargo
HEATHER FARGO
MAYOR