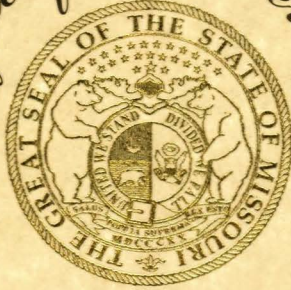


*Office of the Governor*



*State of Missouri*

*Governor's Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the family is the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support for children and adults, and provides the foundation of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the bond between child and parents and family members provides the nurturing and security that is critical for personal growth and development; and

**WHEREAS**, parents can encounter problems that require attention and assistance to ensure the safety and caring support of their children and their family; and

**WHEREAS**, because of this important bond, reunification with parents and family is the best option and preferred outcome for children removed from their homes and placed in foster care; and

**WHEREAS**, safe reunification takes work, commitment, and investment of time and resources by parents, family members, social workers, foster parents, service providers, attorneys, courts, and the community; and

**WHEREAS**, June is celebrated as National Reunification Month to recognize and honor the parents who have done the hard work necessary to safely reunite with their children and the people, programs, services, and supports that helped them.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim June 2024 to be

**FAMILY REUNIFICATION MONTH**

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.



*Michael L. Parson*

*Michael L. Parson*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

*Jay Ashcroft*  
SECRETARY OF STATE