



Fremont County

Board of County Commissioners

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, Fremont County is steadfast in its commitment to ensuring the safety, well-being, and stability of all children, including providing supportive homes where children and youth can feel secure, nurtured, and empowered to succeed; and

Whereas, foster care providers in Fremont County—both licensed foster families who open their homes to children they have never met, and kinship caregivers who step forward out of love for a relative or family friend—represent the very foundation of our county’s child welfare system, offering safety, stability, and unconditional care to our most vulnerable children and youth; and

Whereas, throughout 2025, Fremont County foster care providers cared for an average of 38 children and youth in out-of-home placements at any given time; the vast majority—over 90% each month—were placed in family-like settings rather than congregate care, a testament to the dedication and capacity of our foster and kinship families; and

Whereas, kinship caregivers—including certified and non-certified relatives and family connections—consistently represented a significant share of all placements, with kinship providers (certified and non-certified combined) accounting for more than 40–50% of family-like placements in many months throughout 2025, providing children the immeasurable gift of familiar faces, family bonds, and cultural continuity during times of profound disruption; and

Whereas, the commitment of Fremont County’s foster care providers directly contributed to outstanding child outcomes: among children in care for up to 12-23 months, Fremont County achieved permanency rates of 80–100% across most of 2025, far exceeding the national standard of 43.6%; and for children in care 24 months or more, the county consistently achieved permanency rates of 50–75%, substantially outpacing the national standard of 30.3%; and

Whereas, of children with siblings in out-of-home placement, Fremont County foster care providers maintained sibling placement rates of 77–100% throughout 2025, ensuring that brothers and sisters could remain together, preserving crucial family bonds and reducing the trauma of separation; and

Whereas, foster care providers give far more than shelter—they offer patience, advocacy, medical appointments, school enrollment, emotional support, therapeutic consistency, and love, often during the most difficult chapters of a child’s life, asking for very little in return other than the knowledge that a child is safe and cared for; and

Whereas, licensed foster families in particular make a profound and deliberate choice to welcome a child they have never met into their home, their routines, and their hearts, navigating complex family dynamics, trauma-informed parenting, and the bittersweet reality that the ultimate goal is reunification—and these families deserve recognition not only for their generosity but for their remarkable strength, resilience, and unwavering belief that every child is worth fighting for; and

Whereas, local partnerships among Fremont County’s educational, legal, judicial, law enforcement, social services, mental health, substance recovery, behavioral health, and public health systems are essential to supporting both the



Fremont County

Board of County Commissioners

PROCLAMATION

children in care and the dedicated families who care for them, and we are grateful for the entire community of support that surrounds every foster and kinship placement; and

Whereas, Fremont County recognizes that there is an ongoing and critical need for more licensed foster care families—care providers who are willing to open their hearts and homes to children who have no family placement option available—and we call upon all Fremont County residents to consider how they might answer that call;

Now, Therefore, we, the Fremont County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 2026 to be FOSTER CARE MONTH IN FREMONT COUNTY.

Kevin Grantham, District 1 Commissioner

Debbie Bell, District 2 Commissioner

Dwayne McFall, District 3 Commissioner