



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, in 2024, the State of Colorado placed 50% of children and youth entering out-of-home care with kinship caregivers, with 47.9% placed with a relative at the outset and 51% spending time with a relative at some point during their time in state custody. In Fremont County that same year, 78.4% of children entering out-of-home care were initially placed with kinship caregivers. Statewide, children in kinship care were 57% more likely to achieve reunification with their families and 51% less likely to transition into higher levels of care. Fremont County continues to prioritize relatives and kin for placement whenever possible; and

Whereas, kinship families reside in urban, rural, and suburban neighborhoods across Fremont County, and they often face a multitude of challenges. Therefore, local partnerships among the educational, legal, judicial, law enforcement, social services, mental health, substance recovery, behavioral health, public health agencies, and other systems are important for ensuring access to services that can assist foster children and youth as well as the relatives and kinship providers with which these children are placed. Local agencies within the aforementioned sectors provide opportunities for families to flourish in all facets of their lives and are crucial to helping these families succeed. Furthermore, Fremont County residents are asked to join in honoring relatives, friends, community members, and all those who step forward out of love and loyalty to care for at-risk children and youth during times in which their biological parents are unable to do so, and

Whereas, Kinship Care Month provides an opportunity to showcase the accomplishments of countless children and youth throughout Fremont County who, with the unconditional love and support of relatives and kin, have successfully navigated the emotional difficulties that beset the separation from their parents; all Fremont County citizens are encouraged to raise their awareness and understanding of the importance of family connections and the positively familiar environments that kinship families offer for many Fremont County children;

Now, Therefore, we, the Fremont County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September, 2025 to be KINSHIP CARE MONTH IN FREMONT COUNTY.

Kevin Grantham, District 1 Commissioner

Debbie Bell, District 2 Commissioner

Dwayne McFall, District 3 Commissioner