TOWN OF WHITESTOWN, INDIANA RESOLUTION NO. 2019-32

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING "FOSTER CARE MONTH" IN THE TOWN OF WHITESTOWN, INDIANA

WHEREAS, strengthening families and focusing on their wellbeing is a key to building strong communities; and

WHEREAS, all children have a right to thrive, learn, and grow; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimates that more than 440,000 children and youth are in foster care; and

WHEREAS, foster parents provide for care, safety, and stability for children and teens in their care whose parents need time to develop skills to become the parents their children need; and

WHEREAS, keeping families together is the primary goal in a successful child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, families involved in the child welfare system experience a wide array of needs that can challenge the ability to provide for children's wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, National Foster Care Month was established to help identify ways to strengthen families and community-based support systems and partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to bring attention to the important role that foster care plays in the wellbeing of children and our community; and

WHEREAS, members of the Whitestown community are encouraged to learn more about the ways they can help enhance the lives of children and youth in foster care by vising the National Foster Care Month website developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, available at <u>www.childwelfare.org/fostercaremonth/</u>; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has previously declared May as "Foster Care Month" in past respective years; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure the continued attention to this important issue, the Town Council desires to establish May as "Foster Care Month" in all future years until further action by the Town Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Whitestown, Indiana, as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>. The Town Council does hereby establish May as FOSTER CARE MONTH each year in Whitestown, Indiana.

<u>Section 2</u>. The Town, through the Town Manager and all of its Departments, is hereby charged with the responsibility of actively promoting Foster Care Month in the Town in order to better educate the public about foster care and create a better community for children and families in the foster care system. The Town Council encourages citizens to learn more about foster care and what they can do to support families in the foster care system.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE WHITESTOWN, INDIANA TOWN COUNCIL THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2019.

THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE YAY/NAY TOWN OF WHITESTOWN, INDIANA

Clinton Bohm, President

Susan Austin, Vice-President

Eric Miller

Kevin Russell

Jeffrey Wishek

ATTEST:

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Matt Sumner, Clerk-Treasurer Town of Whitestown, Indiana