



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: All children deserve to grow up in a nurturing environment where they feel loved, safe, and stable; and
- WHEREAS: There are thousands of children in foster care in Minnesota, waiting to be adopted by families who can provide safe, permanent homes; and
- WHEREAS: Most children waiting to be adopted are older or part of sibling groups. It is crucial for older children, as well as younger children, to have adoptive families, and for sibling groups to be adopted together to maintain family bonds; and
- WHEREAS: One of the greatest gifts a person can give is opening their heart and home to adopt a child or sibling group from the foster care system. Adopted children have a positive impact on families and bring great happiness; and
- WHEREAS: Foster children and sibling groups adopted last year have been able to grow and prosper in permanent homes that are nurturing environments with loving families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim November, 2011 as:

## ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota, and encourage citizens to be aware of the many children in foster care still waiting to be adopted into nurturing homes, and express great appreciation for adoptive families who have opened their hearts and homes to children in need.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October.

The signature of Mark Dayton is written in black ink over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR

The signature of Karl Duke is written in blue ink over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE