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PRESS RELEASE

May is National Foster Care Month

National Foster Care Month promotes public awareness of the needs of children and older youth in foster care. As stated in the President's Proclamation, *"Children deserve stable family environments, and foster care provides a wonderful opportunity for selfless and compassionate men and women to nurture children while we work to ensure that they have a forever family. This month, and always, we express our gratitude to all of the families who generously open their doors to children in need and provide them with love and support. We recommit to looking for opportunities to invest in the lives of our vulnerable young people, and we celebrate those who tirelessly serve our Nation's children in foster care."*

There are currently 40 licensed foster family homes in Randolph County and 152 children in the foster care system. The result is less than one third of Randolph County children are in Randolph County licensed homes. Randolph County DSS desires that all children in foster care be able to remain in their home county and attend their school of origin. To make this happen, more families are needed to become foster parents. There continues to be a specific need in Randolph County for families that have the heart to work with teenagers and sibling groups.

DSS is very excited to have 13 families participating in the spring 2019 pre-service training class. Largest class ever! These families graduate in May and will be able to foster children in the community once the licensing process is completed.

Also in appreciation, Asheboro Masonic Lodge #699 is hosting a fun filled cookout for foster families on May 21, 2019 at North Asheboro Park.

Look for a recruitment table at Randolph County's Relay for Life event on May 18, 2019. Please stop by and a social worker will gladly provide you with details about how you can become a foster or adoptive parent. If you are unable to stop by, call (336-683-8062) or email foster.adopt@randolphcountync.gov.

If you are considering being a foster parent, please attend an interest meeting at the Department of Social Services located at 1512 North Fayetteville Street in Asheboro. These meetings will be held on June 6 and August 15 at 6:00 pm. The next pre-service training will begin in September 2019.

Randolph County DSS is fortunate to have two foster families receive National Speakers' Bureau training during the past year.

If your organization would like to learn more about the need for foster parents or the foster home licensing process in Randolph County, please call 336-683-8036.

P.O. Box 3239, Asheboro, North Carolina 27204

www.randolphcountync.gov/Departments/Social-Services

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