



## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT**

Requested Board Meeting Date: October 17, 2017

**Title:** Adoption Awareness Month Proclamation

### **Introduction/Background:**

All children deserve loving, permanent homes. That is the motivation behind the celebration of *Adoption Awareness Month* — a nationwide campaign to encourage families throughout the United States to open their hearts and homes to children in foster care who are waiting to be adopted. *Adoption Awareness Month*, celebrated annually since 1990, works to increase the number of families willing to consider foster care adoption and celebrates the unique joys of creating families through foster care adoption. Superior and Juvenile Court are requesting the Board of Supervisors formally recognize these rights by proclaiming November 2017 *Adoption Awareness Month* in Pima County.

### **Discussion:**

In conjunction with a number of local attorneys, adoption agencies, professionals and child advocates, the court commemorates *Adoption Awareness Month* each year by hosting *Adoption Day in the Park* for adoptive families and their friends. This year's event will celebrate more than 50 families who have committed to providing a loving, caring and supportive home for a child in need. It will also encourage others to make a lifelong difference in the life of a child by either adopting a child from foster care or supporting the work of agencies who are finding forever homes for waiting children.

### **Conclusion:**

Formal recognition of *Adoption Awareness Month* by the Board of Supervisors will support this exceptional opportunity for all foster families, and enrich the prominence of Adoption Awareness Month in our community.

### **Recommendation:**

We respectfully recommend that the Pima County Board of Supervisors declare November, 2017 to be *Adoption Awareness Month* in Pima County.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

### **Board of Supervisor District:**

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Department Director Signature/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Anthony J. Chin*

9/25/17

Deputy County Administrator Signature/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County Administrator Signature/Date: C. Delucetti 9/26/17

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## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Pima County recognizes the importance of offering children the opportunity to have stable, safe and loving families through adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, every child deserves the chance to grow up in a loving, permanent family; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 114,000 children in the United States foster care system are waiting to be adopted; and

**WHEREAS**, Pima County supports all children waiting for forever families; and

**WHEREAS**, to help Pima County's children find stable, nurturing families, the Pima County Juvenile Court together with local attorneys, adoption agencies, professionals and child advocates will observe National Adoption Awareness Month on November 4, by finalizing and celebrating the adoptions of local children; and

**WHEREAS**, this effort, along with similar celebrations nationwide, honors the willingness of committed individuals and families to provide a loving, caring and supportive home for a child in need and encourages other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the life of a child through adoption.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of November 2017 to be:

### **“ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH”**

and during November, all citizens are urged to join with the Pima County Juvenile Court in raising awareness on behalf of the children in Pima County awaiting a loving family.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 17th day of October 2017.

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The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Julie Castañeda, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors