



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, The youth of Key West are our most precious resource and hope for the future, all children deserve a safe, loving and nurturing place to call home; and
- WHEREAS, Families across our country won a victory earlier this year when the Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution guarantees marriage equality – affirming the notion that LGBT couples deserve to be treated equally; and
- WHEREAS, Adoptive parents are unsung heroes that serve as the final source of love, protection and support to the abused and neglected children of Key West; and
- WHEREAS, The many children in our local foster care program need and deserve permanent and nurturing families; and
- WHEREAS, Adoptive parents and families who have adopted children require and deserve community and public agency, respect and support; and
- WHEREAS, There are numerous individuals, public and private organizations who work tirelessly to increase public awareness of the needs of adoptive children as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of adoptive parents, and recognize that the child welfare system is only as good as those who chose to be a part of it.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Cates, Mayor the City of Key West, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim and recognize November 2016 as

Adoption Awareness Month

in Monroe County and in the “Southernmost City of the Continental United States” and in doing so, urge all citizens to join in a national effort to raise awareness about the importance of adoption.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 1st day of November 2016.

Craig Cates, MAYOR