

**PROCLAMATION
CITY OF MARICOPA
MAYOR ANTHONY SMITH**

***FOSTER CARE MONTH
MAY 2012***

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our communities and our State; and

WHEREAS, in Pinal County there are over 600 children and youth in foster care being provided with a safe, secure and stable home along with the compassion and nurture of a foster family; and

WHEREAS, all young people in foster care need a meaningful connection to a caring adult who becomes a supportive and lasting presence in their lives; and

WHEREAS, foster, kinship and adoptive families, who open their homes and hearts and support children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect thereby launching young people into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, public and private organizations who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents, and the foster care "system" is only as good as those who choose to be part of it; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Anthony Smith, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Maricopa, do hereby proclaim May as FOSTER CARE MONTH in Maricopa, and urge all citizens to come forward and do something positive that will help change a lifetime for children and youth in foster care.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2012

Anthony Smith, Mayor

Attest:

LeeAnne Schirato, CMC
Deputy City Clerk