

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, all children deserve to have their basic needs met, and the Division of Child Support in the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services helps engage and empower parents to find ways to provide reliable support for their children; and

WHEREAS, the prompt, accurate, and compassionate collection of child support helps families build strong foundations for children who will realize their full potential as adults; and

WHEREAS, through the collection of child support, the Division of Child Support touched the lives of more than 365,000 children and collected more than \$665 million in support during state fiscal year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Child Support is committed to a family-centered approach to its work that focuses on providing respect and resources to every person every day; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Child Support, will continue to advance innovative ways to connect parents to resources that help with barriers to paying child support such as substance abuse disorders, homelessness, and previous incarceration through the Alternative Solutions program, family-centered casework, partnerships with other state agencies and referrals to more than 3,000 community-based organizations; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Division of Child Support plays a significant role in helping the Economic Services Administration of the Department of Social and Health Services reduce the number of individuals and families in poverty by 50 percent in 2025 in a way that eliminates disparities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim August 2020 as

Child Support Awareness Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance and to recognize the important role of parents, employers, and community resources in the collection of child support for Washington's children.



Signed this 22nd day of July, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee