

County of Forest

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Forest County Resolution Recognizing the Staff of Forest County Children & Youth Services June 2, 2021

WHEREAS, the week of June 7-11, 2021 has been proclaimed as Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week by Governor Wolf, recognizing the efforts of child welfare professionals serving the children of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, every day in Forest County, local children are at risk of child abuse and neglect or have been removed from their homes due to such abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, we, the Commissioners of Forest County recognize the risks and the need to protect the children in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the challenging task of investigating child abuse, providing services to families, assessing safety, and providing services to ensure that the children of Forest County are provided with nurturance, family connections, support as they transition into adulthood, and services that allow a child to remain safely in their home or return home as expeditiously as possible made more challenging by the global pandemic falls to the child welfare professionals of Forest County's child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, the work of child welfare professionals may require them to enter into situations in which their personal safety may be put at risk; and

WHEREAS, the work of child welfare professionals of Forest County requires them to take on the role of frontline essential workers in the time of a global pandemic and provide services to the families of Forest County despite the risk to the professional's health and safety; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals work in difficult and emotional situations with children who have been victimized by physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and other forms of maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, the professionals of Forest County Children & Youth Services must develop great skill in working with families who are in crisis situations, struggling with mental health challenges, suffering

from drug and alcohol afflictions, poverty, and other difficult issues; and

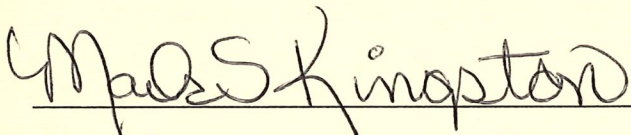
WHEREAS, the professionals of Forest County Children & Youth Services must develop substantial knowledge and skills surrounding the rights of families, the laws surrounding child welfare, and the legal processes governing the system; and

WHEREAS, the staff of Forest County Children & Youth Services selflessly undertake the endeavor to protect Pennsylvania's children, often with low pay, long hours, tremendous demands, little appreciation, great criticism, and with dramatic impacts to their personal life; and

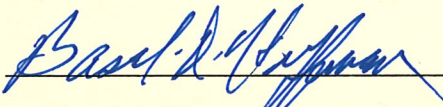
WHEREAS, every year, child welfare professionals are injured or killed in their pursuit to protect children across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus epidemic has created substantial challenges in providing child welfare services to which the staff of child welfare rose most proficiently; and

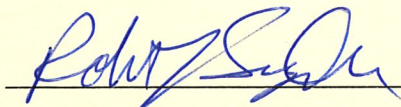
WHEREAS, innumerable injuries and deaths of children in Forest County have been averted due to the efforts of Forest County Children & Youth Services; therefore, in special recognition of the efforts of Forest County Children & Youth Services serving the children of Forest County, We, the Commissioners of Forest County, do hereby issue this Resolution recognizing the staff of Forest County Children & Youth Services for their dedicated efforts in protection the children of Forest County.



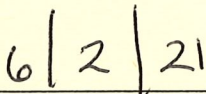
Mark S. Kingston - Chair



Basil D. Huffman - Commissioner



Robert J. Snyder, Jr. - Commissioner



Date