

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, this year during the month of September, Kinship Care Month is observed, Payson is proud to recognize the children and their grandparents and other relatives who raise them in kinship care and who ensure their safety, promote their well-being and establish a stable household for these young people to thrive, and

Whereas, nationally 2.7 million children are living with grandparents and other relatives in kinship care of which over 104,715 of these young people reside in Arizona, and

Whereas, relationships with family are crucial for children, it is our responsibility to promote and preserve kinship, sibling, and other familial connections for children in Arizona, and

Whereas, Arizonians join to honor famous kinship caregivers such as President George Washington, as well those grandparents and relatives residing in urban, rural and suburban households in every county of Arizona who “famously” step forward out of love and loyalty to care for relatives when the child’s biological parents are no longer able to do so, and

Whereas, Arizonians join to honor famous youth who were raised in kinship care such as Maya Angelou, Sandra Day O’Conner, and Barack Obama as well as those children residing in urban, rural and suburban households in every county of Arizona who through the unconditional support of grandparents and other relatives, have successfully addressed the emotional trauma of losing their parents, and

Whereas, the public becomes increasingly aware of the challenges faced by children, grandparents and other relatives in kinship care to work in partnership with the education, legal, social services, mental health, justice and other systems to access services that can enable kinship youth to flourish in all facets of their life, and

Whereas, nationally Grandfamilies/Kinship Caregivers save tax payers more than 6.5 billion Dollars as year, and

Whereas, one in eleven of all children and one in five Black children will live within a kinship family sometime during their childhood, kinship care provides the best opportunity to retain the child’s cultural heritage and community ties.

Now, Therefore, I, Kenny J. Evans, Mayor of the Town of Payson, Arizona, do hereby proclaim

SEPTEMBER, 2015
AS
GRANDFAMILY/KINSHIP CARE MONTH

In Payson, Arizona.

SEP 03 2015 D.3

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Town of Payson, Arizona, to be affixed this 3rd day of September, 2015.

Kenny J. Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

Silvia Smith, Town Clerk

