

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the family is the cornerstone of our communities, state, and nation, and children are the future of society; and

**WHEREAS**, the care, protection, and nurturing of children has traditionally been the responsibility of biological parents, with support from other family members and the community; and

**WHEREAS**, grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, and siblings are stepping forward in ever-increasing numbers to assume full responsibility for children whose parents are unable or unwilling to appropriately parent; and

**WHEREAS**, these kin face day-to-day challenges as well as emotional, financial, and legal obstacles, often alone and without support; and

**WHEREAS**, they are committed to providing these children with a healthy, safe, and happy childhood; and

**WHEREAS**, the significant contribution of the care and nurturing of these children by their relatives deserves to be recognized;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 16, 2012, as

### *Kinship Caregiver Day*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012

*Christine O. Gregoire*  
Governor Christine O. Gregoire

