

## FOSTER CARE MONTH

- WHEREAS: Thousands of Georgia children are abused or neglected by their parents or caretakers every year; and
- WHEREAS: Many of them must be removed from their homes and placed in a safe, stable and loving environment; and
- WHEREAS: The Division of Family and Children Services, the state agency responsible for the well-being of these children, placed and monitored 15,400 children in foster care in SFY 2004; and
- WHEREAS: The success of Georgia's foster care program depends upon the dedication of those workers and citizens who choose to serve children; and
- WHEREAS: The caseworkers and foster parents of Georgia deserve our respect and support as crucial members of the state's foster care team; and
- WHEREAS: Numerous individuals and public and private organizations work to support Georgia's foster care program and increase public awareness of the needs of abuse and neglected children; now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2005 as FOSTER CARE MONTH in Georgia in recognition of these very caring citizens and the invaluable services they provide for our most vulnerable children.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand five.

