



CITY OF BELLINGHAM  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
DAN PIKE

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the City of Bellingham recognizes the importance of helping children find permanent, safe and loving families through adoption; and

WHEREAS, more than 9,100 children are currently living in foster care in Washington state; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,320 of those children currently in foster care have been legally and permanently separated from their parents and are waiting for families to belong to; and

WHEREAS, outreach to adoptive families has been identified as a critical step in moving children more quickly out of foster care and into loving, permanent homes; and

WHEREAS, National Adoption Day was established in 2000 to raise awareness of more than 120,000 foster children across the United States who are waiting for “forever families;” and

WHEREAS, to help these children find new homes, the Whatcom County Superior Court on November 19, 2010 will celebrate adoptions and the parents who welcome these children into their families; and

WHEREAS, this effort, along with similar celebrations across the country, will offer children a chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other adults to consider making a powerful difference in the life of a child through adoption; and

WHEREAS, I urge all citizens to join in the local and national efforts to raise awareness of the importance of adoption for foster children and all children needing safe, loving families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, do I Dan Pike, as the Mayor of Bellingham, do hereby proclaim Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> to be:

### NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

in the City of Bellingham, Washington.

Signed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2010.

City of Bellingham

