



**PROCLAMATION
Kinship Care Month
September 2016**

WHEREAS, approximately 2.9 million children in America are being raised by their grandparents or other relatives in kinship care, including 73,000 children in Arizona; and

WHEREAS, kinship caregivers not only ensure better outcomes for the children in their care by keeping them out of the foster care system, but they also save the government hundreds of millions of dollars each year; and

WHEREAS, relationships with family members are crucial for the healthy development of children, we should strive to promote and preserve kinship, sibling and other familial connections for our children; and

WHEREAS, support from the community and education, legal, social services, mental health, and justice systems can enable kinship youth to flourish in all facets of their life; and

WHEREAS, kinship care provides the best opportunity to retain the child's cultural heritage and community ties;

WHEREAS, Queen Creek is proud to recognize grandparents and other relatives who raise children in kinship care to ensure their safety and promote their well-being.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Gail Barney, Mayor of the Town of Queen Creek, do hereby proclaim September 2016 as Kinship Care Month in the Town of Queen Creek.

WITNESS MY HAND this 1st day of September, 2016.


Mayor Gail Barney


Attest: Jennifer F. Robinson, Town Clerk