

## Proclamation

**Whereas**, the young people of New York State are its future and as such deserve consistent support from their parents and caregivers to experience and benefit from the highest, healthiest quality of life possible; and

**Thereas**, New York State's Child Support Program was implemented 50 years ago, in 1975, to ensure that all parents contribute financially to their children's well-being; it has since grown into an essential service that upholds our state's core values by promoting responsible parental support and strengthening families; and

**Exercise**, we recognize that the fundamental duty of all parents is to care for their children and provide for their physical, mental, and financial needs, which are critical to their long-term development; studies have shown that strong support systems are key to preventing children from engaging in harmful behaviors and encouraging their success in school and adulthood; and

**Experses**, in 2024, the Child Support Program collected and distributed \$1.67 billion on behalf of approximately 617,000 cases, encouraging parents to develop healthy connections with their children while assisting families throughout the state in reducing child poverty and maintaining financial stability; and

**Whereas**, the Child Support Program has taken several steps towards greater efficiency and accessibility of services through collaborations with state and community agencies for survivors of domestic violence as well as the implementation of the new Online Enrollment Tool for parents; and

**Whereas**, the child support professionals across New York State who deliver child support services for families display commendable commitment, respect, and empathy for others in the fulfillment of their duties and work hard to consistently provide outstanding customer service for the benefit of children and families;

**Dow, Therefore**, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim August 2025 as

## CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH

in the Empire State.

of in en under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this thirtieth day

of July in the year two thousand twenty-five.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor Karen Persichilli Keogh