



Orange County Government
Office of County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus
NEWS RELEASE

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Orange County declares May National Foster Parent Month

The County recognizes the Snyder and Bynum families, who have been foster parents for 25 years

Goshen, N.Y. – Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus and the Orange County Legislature have declared May as Foster Parent Month in the County.

According to Steve Brescia, Chairman of the Legislature, Foster Parent Month provides an opportunity to acknowledge foster parents, family members, volunteers, mentors, policymakers, child welfare professionals and other community members who help children and youth in foster care find permanent homes and connections.

“Through their love and guidance, foster parents in Orange County provide vulnerable children with the care and supervision they need to grow and develop until they can find a permanent family,” Brescia said. “It is important to recognize the invaluable contribution that foster parents make and thank them for their dedication to these children.”

Added Neuhaus: “Foster parents play a valuable role in our communities and provide a nurturing family environment to children in need of stability in their lives. This recognition is important and I commend the Snyder and Bynum families, and all those who selflessly foster children in Orange County.”

At the Legislative meeting on Thursday, May 4, Brescia and the Legislature, along with Deputy County Executive Wayne Booth and Darcie Miller, Orange County’s Commissioner of Mental Health and Social Services, paid tribute to two Orange

County couples who have been foster parents for 25 years, Otisville's Keith and Faith Snyder and Dwayne and Yolanda Bynum of Walden.

The Bynums have fostered more than 70 children and have adopted through foster care. They once took in a young man who had no family to return to during his college breaks. The Snyders have fostered more than 40 children and have also adopted through foster care. They have provided a home for many children with medical issues, including those with congenital health problems and who have been abused.

There are 192 certified foster homes in Orange County that provide 246 children with a safe and secure place to live.

"These two families have been a wonderful resource for Orange County," Miller said. "They have made a positive impact on many children and families, providing nurturing care to all of the children entrusted to them. We are grateful for their selfless service and for raising these children with love and compassion."

For more information on becoming a foster parent in Orange County, please contact the Foster Care Network at 877-297-3303 or visit the website fosteradoptorangeny.org. Potential foster parents must be at least 21-years-old and have a reliable source of income.

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Foster parents Keith and Faith Snyder and Dwayne and Yolanda Bynum with some of their families. It is the Department of Social Services policy not to identify children in foster care.