

*Office of the Mayor*  
Oro Valley, Arizona  
**Proclamation**

**GRANDFAMILY/KINSHIP CARE MONTH  
SEPTEMBER 2015**

**WHEREAS**, this year during the month of September, Grandfamily/Kinship Care Month is observed, Oro Valley, Arizona is proud to recognize the children and their grandparents and other relatives who raise them in kinship care and who ensure their safety, promote their well-being and establish a stable household for these young people to thrive; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally, 2.7 million children are living with grandparents and other relatives in kinship care of which over 104,715 caregivers reside in Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, relationships with family are crucial for children, it is our responsibility to promote and preserve kinship, sibling and other familial connections for children in Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, Arizonians join to honor famous kinship caregivers such as President George Washington, as well those grandparents and relatives residing in urban, rural and suburban households in every county of Arizona who step forward out of love and loyalty to care for relatives when the child's biological parents are no longer able to do so; and

**WHEREAS**, the public becomes increasingly aware of the challenges faced by children, grandparents and other relatives in kinship care to work in partnership with the education, legal, social services, mental health, justice and other systems to access services that can enable kinship youth to flourish in all facets of their life; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally Grandfamilies/Kinship Caregivers save taxpayers more than 6.5 billion dollars a year; and

**WHEREAS**, one in eleven children will live within a kinship family sometime during their childhood, kinship care provides the best opportunity to retain the child's cultural heritage and community ties.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Satish I. Hiremath, Mayor of the Town of Oro Valley, Arizona, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2015, to be **Grandfamily/Kinship Care Month** in the Town of Oro Valley, Arizona.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2015

  
Dr. Satish I. Hiremath, Mayor



ATTEST:

  
Julie K. Bower, Town Clerk