The State of **Mashington**



Proclamation

WHEREAS, meaningful parent leadership occurs when parents contribute in leadership roles that help to shape the direction of their families, programs, and communities; and

WHEREAS, parent leadership is an essential and effective means of strengthening families and the next generation of Washingtonians by preventing child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families recognizes the vital importance of partnering with parents and assists public systems and private organizations, policymakers, and other key stakeholders to effectively implement parent leadership strategies; and

WHEREAS, parent leadership is a necessary component in any effective family strengthening and optimal child development strategy; and

WHEREAS, parent leadership is successfully achieved when parents are engaged in the planning, implementation, oversight, and evaluation of policies, practices, and programs that affect families and communities; and

WHEREAS, more parents each year are developing vital partnerships with service providers, policymakers, and key stakeholders to shape policy and practice and build stronger communities for children; and

WHEREAS, the power of parents speaking publicly about their experiences has made, and will continue to make, an impact on the lives of families everywhere;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim February 2021, as

Parent Recognition Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 21st day of January, 2021

Governor Jay Inslee