

**A PROCLAMATION
BY
GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE**

WHEREAS, as we begin the 21st century, our world is increasingly complex, our society more mobile, and our pace of life more rapid. In times like this, full of dynamic challenge and change, we need to remember the fundamental values and institutions that strengthen and uplift us. Among the most precious of these are our families; and

WHEREAS, families are diverse and come in many forms and sizes. They can number several generations or just one; they can include birth parents and stepparents, foster children and adopted children. Families are created by ties of blood or law, but they are sustained by ties of love and caring; and

WHEREAS, few people in our lives will have so profound an effect on us as our family members. From the day we are born, the people who live with us, nurture us, and guide us play a crucial role in shaping the kind of men and women we become. Families are the most basic and the most important unit of our society, and they shape the communities in which we live; and

WHEREAS, through the resources and efforts of agencies and organizations, such as the 350 agencies that are members of the Alliance for Children and Families, our communities can provide a family-supportive environment and reach out with compassion to help those in need; and

WHEREAS, nothing is more important than preserving and promoting strong, loving families. This week, as we gather with our own families to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us resolve to do all we can to help families who are in need, and to recognize that at a time in history when families are subject to negative forces that could destroy or marginalize them, the well-being of society is intimately tied to the strength of the family;

NOW THEREFORE, I Ronnie Musgrove, governor of the State of Mississippi do hereby proclaim November 19-25, 2000

NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

in the State of Mississippi.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have affixed the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi this the 14th day of September 2000.

**RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR, STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**

