

City of Tyler  
by the honorable  
Barbara Bass, Mayor

A Proclamation  
NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY  
NOVEMBER 13, 2008

*Whereas, National Adoption Day brings together local lawyers, foster care departments, child advocates, and family courts to expedite and finalize the adoption process; and*

*Whereas, while many children have foster families they can wait years for the adoption process to be completed; and*

*Whereas, National Adoption Day accelerated the adoption process by utilizing a network of pro bono attorneys and courts to reduce the backlog of children awaiting adoptive families, and celebrates the new, loving life that adoptive families are beginning; and*

*Whereas, since 1984, the number of children in foster care has increased yearly; nationwide approximately 600,000 children are in foster care, of these children, 127,000 are eligible for adoption, yet in 1996, only 23,000 were adopted; and*

*Whereas, approximately 100,000 foster children come from circumstances of such extreme abuse or neglect that they can never return home, only 20% to 25% of all foster children available for adoption will ever leave foster care and find an adoptive family before aging out of state care at age 18; and*

*Whereas, National Adoption Day helps families come together in the adoption process and celebrates the new bonds for abused and neglected youngsters,*

*Now Therefore, I, Barbara Bass, Mayor of the City of Tyler, Texas, do hereby proclaim NOVEMBER 13, 2008, as NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY, in the City of Tyler, Texas, and urge all citizens to join in recognizing this outstanding organization and their many contributions to our community.*

*In official recognition whereof I hereby  
affix my signature this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November 2008.*

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Barbara R. Bass  
Mayor of Tyler, Texas