WHEREAS, every child deserves the chance to live and grow in a loving, caring and supportive home; and

WHEREAS, more than 400 children in South Carolina are awaiting identification of families to provide the stable and nurturing environments they need to achieve their full potential; and

WHEREAS, many of these children have special needs, including physical, mental, or emotional disabilities, age, or a necessity to be placed as a sibling group, that complicate placement in a permanent home; and

WHEREAS, families able and willing to adopt children with special needs are at the forefront of fulfilling our responsibility to one of our most vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 observance of Adoption Awareness Month honors adoptive families for their positive contributions to the well-being of our children and our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 2006 as

ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to consider becoming adoptive parents for the future well-being of the many children waiting for permanent families.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA