## FOSTER CARE MONTH

WHEREAS, there is nothing more precious to Santa Clara County than the healthy growth and development of our youth, who will determine the future direction of our community; and

WHEREAS, families serve as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, and support and are the very foundation of Santa Clara County communities; and

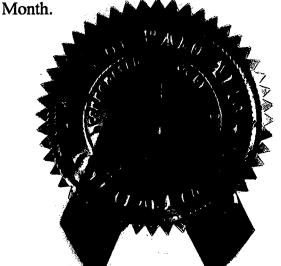
WHEREAS, in Santa Clara County, there are more than 2,000 children and youth in the foster care system who are being provided a safe, secure, and stable home environment, along with the compassion and nurturing of a foster or relative foster family; and

WHEREAS, foster families open their homes and hearts to children whose families are in crisis, and thus play a vital role in helping children and families heal, reconnect, and launch children into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a continual need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, Foster Care Month provides the opportunity to thank the families who embrace the often thankless responsibility of providing a home and family to children in need of affection, love, and security, and to support the efforts of foster parents who dedicate their time to children both in and leaving foster care.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LARRY KLEIN, Mayor of the City of Palo Alto, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2008 as Foster Care



Larry Klein Mayor

> City of Palo Alto May 2008