



MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT

BRIDGET M. McCORMACK
CHIEF JUSTICE

MICHIGAN HALL OF JUSTICE
925 WEST OTTAWA STREET
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48915

Memorandum

To: Chief Circuit Court Judges
Family Division Judges
Circuit Court Administrators
Family Division Administrators

From: Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack
Justice Elizabeth Clement
Justice Megan Cavanagh

Date: April 14, 2022

Re: Michigan Reunification Month

The Michigan Supreme Court and State Court Administrative Office encourage your court to participate in National Reunification Month, this June, by holding an event recognizing the families and professionals who are successful in having children returned home from foster care.

Michigan's fifth Reunification Day celebration will be held at the Hall of Justice on June 17, 2022. A picnic luncheon and program to honor families from Van Buren County will be sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Federation for Children & Families, State Court Administrative Office-Child Welfare Services, and the Michigan Court Improvement Program.

The program will feature remarks by judges and child welfare advocates, and highlight inspiring stories of triumph from parents who worked hard to be reunified with their children. The vital role that community partners play in helping to strengthen, support, and reunify families also will be recognized. Two exemplary leaders in family preservation work will be honored with Guy Thompson Champion for Reunification Awards. We hope that this program can be a template for your local celebration.

For information about Reunification Month, including highlights from past events around the country and planning tools to help you design your own Reunification Day event, please visit the ABA's website: https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_interest/child_law/project-areas/national-reunification-month/

For inspiration and information on Michigan's Reunification Day, please visit our website: <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/administration/offices/public-information-office/community-outreach-by-the-supreme-court/michigan-reunification-day/>

If your court has questions or would like additional information, please contact Katy Todd at (517) 373-2621 or by e-mail at reunification@courts.mi.gov. Our SCAO team is available and ready to help you plan a successful event.