

Office of the Mayor

Bessemer, Alabama

Proclamation

WHEREAS, children are our future and society's greatest asset, and committed families shape and guide children by preparing them for obstacles and encouraging them to overcome life's demanding challenges; and

WHEREAS, children who spend significant time with both parents show lower risks of suicide, dropout, teen pregnancy, incarceration, and drug abuse; however, the importance of children having two parents is diminishing in society as approximately 40,000 Alabama children a year experience court ordered visitation with one parent for only two to six days a month; and

WHEREAS, simple daily activities like sharing a meal, a conversation, or a book can have an enormous impact on the life of a child. Strong and engaged families help build a strong Alabama, and it is our responsibility as concerned family members to help create a solid foundation for the future health and happiness of all of Alabama's children; and


WHEREAS, Family Day in Alabama has grown to promote the importance of family interaction and connecting with kids throughout the Day/Week, and to stress that children need both parents, and during Family Day/Week we honor the devotion of parents and recognize their critical role in teaching children positive and healthy behaviors; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all Alabamians to visit CASAFamilyDay.org or ALFRA.ORG/FAMILY-DAY for information on talking with children about the perils of drug use, and we call on community and state leaders to support shared parenting because of its benefits for children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kenneth E Gulley, Mayor of the City of Bessemer, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2020 as **FAMILY DAY** and the week of September 27 through October 3, 2020 as **FAMILY WEEK** in the city of Bessemer and encourage our citizens to join together in observing this day/week by spending time with their families and by engaging in appropriate ceremonies and activities to honor and strengthen both our city's and state's families.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed.




ATTEST: Mary Ann Herron
DATE: September 17, 2020

THE MARVEL CITY