WHEREAS, the Colorado Youth Leadership Network as a tool of the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare is designed to align, integrate and leverage collaborative youth service for positive youth outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Youth Leadership Network, which has been in existence for seven years and is comprised of 18 youth serving state agencies, recognizes September 6-12, 2020 as the second annual Youth Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, Youth Awareness Week will feature activities each day to celebrate and honor youth by offering Youth Engagement Opportunities and Professional Development experiences for Youth Serving Professionals; and

WHEREAS, September 8th will kick off the week with a virtual kickoff event featuring a video montage of Youth and Professionals addressing “Why Youth Voice matters” and “Why we need to recognize and celebrate youth as part of our community”; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Youth Leadership Network will offer youth focused activities that include: Learn Your Rights, Rock the Vote and Census Project, and Empowering Youth Expressions; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Youth Leadership Network will offer Professional Development and Training opportunities to youth serving professionals on: positive youth development designed to connect, engage and collaborate with youth and youth mental health awareness, Chafee|NYTD program eligibility and data reflecting Colorado outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Youth Leadership Network will recognize and celebrate youth accomplishment on civic and community engagement by providing Youth certificates; and

WHEREAS, youth are our future leaders and regardless if they are within an institutional setting, cross-system or non-system, they are intelligent, passionate and resilient individuals and the Colorado Youth Leadership Network helps these youths achieve their goals; and

WHEREAS, we need young voices in our communities in Colorado and across the country to lead us into a better future and through civic engagement the Colorado Youth Leadership Network helps prepare young adults for effective leadership;

THEREFORE, I Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the period of September 6, 2020 to September 12, 2020 as:

YOUTH AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this sixth day of September, 2020

Jared Polis
Governor