



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, the children of today represent our greatest hope and promise for the future and New York State is steadfast in its commitment to ensuring the safety, health and well-being of our children who will become the leaders of tomorrow; and

**Whereas**, there is no element of personal responsibility more basic than the obligation of a parent – *both* parents – to care for their children, and providing financial and emotional support is critical to a child's growth and development into a productive citizen; and

**Whereas**, New York State's Child Support Enforcement Program is an important component of a single parent's ability to increase economic security; and

**Whereas**, child support professionals in New York work diligently to serve more than 974,000 children – approximately 22% of the state's children under the age of 18 – and these dedicated professionals have established collaborative partnerships with other State, county and community-based agencies to help educate parents about the need to financially and emotionally support their children; and

**Whereas**, the seven-year period from 2000 to 2007 saw the statewide total in child support collections increase from \$1.2 billion to more than \$1.6 billion, representing a 27% increase in collections; and

**Whereas**, child support professionals continue to be committed and passionate about ensuring that the children of New York receive all the support to which they are entitled as this can have an immeasurable impact on all aspects of a child's being, with permanent and lifelong effects; and

**Whereas**, we are fortunate that the majority of children in New York State have the benefits of a stable, strong and positive home environment in which they are raised by caring parents who see that their needs are met, and we recognize these people who are examples of good parenting who acknowledge and live up to their responsibilities by providing for their children's well-being – emotionally, financially, and in other ways;

**Now, Therefore**, I, David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim August 2008 as

## CHILD SUPPORT MONTH

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State  
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this thirtieth  
day of July in the year two thousand eight.

*David A. Paterson*

Governor

*[Signature]*

Secretary to the Governor