



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH**

**2018**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina public health system is a critical component of our emergency response to natural and man-made disasters and widespread disease outbreaks in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, public health measures to control and eliminate infectious diseases, improve environmental sanitation, and promote healthy lifestyle practices have been the greatest cause of improved health status and increased life expectancy for North Carolina's residents, such that North Carolinians have an average life expectancy at birth of more than 78 years; and

**WHEREAS**, public health plays a critical role in eliminating health inequities and preventing chronic diseases and injuries, resulting in improved productivity and decreased health care costs for all; and

**WHEREAS**, public health programs that provide accessible, high-quality medical care and promote healthy lifestyles for women of childbearing years have resulted in a 16 percent decline in infant mortality since 2000; focus on prevention has resulted in a 41 percent decline in age-adjusted heart disease death rates, a 44 percent decline in age-adjusted stroke death rates, and a 63 percent decline in birth rates for teens (ages 15-19) since 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina is committed to a continued emphasis on prevention in public health, and to helping our communities reach a better state of health through actions outlined in Healthy North Carolina 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Healthy North Carolina 2020 objectives represent a 10-year plan to improve the health of all North Carolinians by working to promote access to preventive and needed health services; foster positive and supportive living and working conditions in our communities; and support individuals in developing the capacities and skills to achieve healthy living; and

**WHEREAS**, communities, employers, hospitals and health care providers, individuals and families, insurers, legislators and policy makers, schools and child care facilities must work together to identify and develop innovative solutions to health problems facing the people of our state; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages people to recognize that public health is working to ensure all our communities are protected from threats such as influenza, foodborne disease, injury, and chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and asthma;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2018, as "PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-ninth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.