



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as CF, is a genetic disease that affects more than 70,000 children and adults worldwide, including 30,000 in the United States and more than 900 in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, producing life-threatening lung infections; and obstructs the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

WHEREAS, more than 10 million Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene; as a result, CF occurs in approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the United States, and approximately 900 new cases are diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, with advances in the treatment of CF, the number of adults with CF has grown steadily; today, more than 50 percent of the CF population is 18 years of age and older, and the median predicted survival age for a person with CF has increased to more than 45 years; and

WHEREAS, infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most reliable and least costly method to identify people likely to have CF; early diagnosis permits early treatment that can enhance quality of life and increase longevity; and

WHEREAS, clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily CF treatment regimen, and other types of treatments include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes; however, people with CF have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the CF gene, so determining treatment depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

WHEREAS, there are 8 world-class treatment centers in North Carolina which specialize in the diagnosis and care of people with CF, helping provide access to the innovative treatments that play a crucial role in the lives of these patients and their families; and

WHEREAS, improving the length and quality of life of people with CF starts with awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2018, as “**CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS 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-sixth day of April 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.