



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

CHIARI MALFORMATION AWARENESS MONTH

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in September 2017, events will be held throughout our state by the North Carolina chapters of Conquer Chiari Walk Across America; and

WHEREAS, Chiari Malformation (CM) is a serious neurological disorder affecting well over 300,000 people in the United States; the disorder was first identified by an Austrian pathologist, Professor Hans Chiari, in the 1890s and categorized in order of severity: CM types 0, 1, 1.5, 2, 3 and 4; and

WHEREAS, Chiari Malformations are defects in the cerebellum, the part of the brain that controls balance; this condition creates pressure on brain stem, and may block the normal flow of cerebral spinal fluid to and from the brain; and

WHEREAS, the cause of Chiari Malformation is unknown, but scientists believe it is either a congenital condition, caused by exposure to harmful substances during fetal development; or a genetic condition, as it may appear in more than one family member; and

WHEREAS, symptoms usually appear during adolescence or early adulthood, and can include severe head and neck pain, vertigo, muscle weakness, balance problems, blurred or double vision, difficulty swallowing, and sleep apnea; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke of the National Institutes of Health is conducting research to identify the cause of the malformations, find alternative surgical options, and create improved treatment and prevention plans; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina supports the effort to raise awareness of Chiari Malformation to increase support and understanding for those affected by this disorder and their families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2017, as **"CHIARI MALFORMATION 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 fourteenth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.