



State of North Carolina

Roy Cooper
Governor

PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH

2017

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 North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, a continued focus on promoting public health programs that provide accessible, high-quality medical care and encourage healthy lifestyles for women of childbearing years has resulted in a 17 percent decline in infant mortality since 2000; and

WHEREAS, a continued focus on prevention has resulted in a 40 percent decline in age-adjusted heart disease death rates since 2000, a 45 percent decline in age-adjusted stroke death rates since 2000, and a 56 percent decline in birth rates for teens (ages 15-19) since 2000; and

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

WHEREAS, the Healthy North Carolina 2020 health objectives represents 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 North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2017, as "PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH" in North Carolina and urge our citizens to recognize that public health is working to ensure that all North Carolinians are protected from threats such as influenza, foodborne disease, injury and chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and asthma.



Roy Cooper
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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 eighth day of February 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.