

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**CLEFT AND CRANIOFACIAL AWARENESS MONTH**

2017

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

## A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, orofacial clefts are the most frequently occurring birth defects in the United States, affecting approximately 1 in 700 infants per year; and

**WHEREAS**, infants born with clefts and other craniofacial conditions usually require surgery as well as special feeding support, dental and orthodontic care, and speech therapy as they grow; and


**WHEREAS**, this complexity of services need to be provided in a synchronized manner over a period of years, and are best provided by interdisciplinary cleft and craniofacial teams; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations such as the American Cleft-Palate Craniofacial Association serve populations with craniofacial differences, as well as the professionals who care for them, by providing families with comprehensive information, support, and connections to these interdisciplinary teams in order to help their infants get a healthy start to life; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting and proper to recognize the efforts of organizations and families working to ensure a better life for those affected by cleft lip/palate or other craniofacial conditions;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim July, 2017, as “**CLEFT AND CRANIOFACIAL AWARENESS MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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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-second day of June 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.