

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

INFANT MORALITY AWARENESS MONTH

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina has a high infant mortality rate compared to most states; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's infant mortality rate in 2016 was 7.2 deaths per 1,000 live births; however, the mortality rate for African American infants is more than twice that of white infants (13.0 versus 5.4 deaths per 1,000 live births); and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has a Perinatal Health Strategic Plan focused on improving infant and maternal health and mortality, and the health of all people of reproductive age; and

WHEREAS, throughout September 2018, many local health departments will celebrate Infant Mortality Awareness Month with resource and health fairs in collaboration with North Carolina Public Health; and


WHEREAS, Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Start Baby Love Plus, UNC Pembroke Healthy Start Corps, Robeson Healthcare Healthy Start Programs, and other organizations provide outreach, health education, and care coordination to families of color across the state during pregnancy and after; and

WHEREAS, these programs also focus on women's wellness, as healthier women with planned pregnancies have better birth outcomes, including fewer infant deaths; and

WHEREAS, these events and programs will offer resources, information, and support that can have a positive impact on the lives of North Carolinians;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2018, as "INFANT MORALITY 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 thirtieth day of August 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.