



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

2019

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 for people with CF starts with awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 2019, 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 thirtieth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.