State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

LOW VISION AWARENESS MONTH

2019

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, low vision is a vision impairment that cannot be corrected by standard eyeglasses, contact lenses, medication, or surgery; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Foundation for the Blind, as of 2016, an estimated more than 282,000 North Carolinians live with vision difficulty; and

WHEREAS, low vision can make activities such as reading, shopping, cooking, writing, engaging in the community, and other important facets of daily living difficult to do; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of vision loss can include anxiety, depression, and feelings of loss of control; and

WHEREAS, vision rehabilitation can help people with low vision maximize their remaining vision; maintain independence; find, keep, regain, or advance in employment; increase confidence; and improve their overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, through the Division of Services for the Blind, provides assistance and resources including independent living, career guidance and counseling, job development and placement, deaf-blind services, assistive technology, and orientation and mobility skills training to people with low vision in our state; and

WHEREAS, Low Vision Awareness Month is an opportunity to support those in our communities who have low vision and encourage them to seek methods of treatment and rehabilitation in North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim February, 2019, as **"LOW VISION 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 twenty-fifth day of January 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.