

# State of North Carolina

# **ROY COOPER**

**GOVERNOR** 

#### CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

2021

### BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, January is recognized nationally as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, an observance that promotes education about cervical cancer causes, screenings, and treatments; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, 406 women were diagnosed with invasive cervical cancer, and 129 women died of cervical cancer in 2020; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 13,800 cases of invasive cervical cancer were diagnosed in 2020 nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (NC BCCCP) provides free or low-cost breast and cervical cancer screenings and follow-up to eligible uninsured or underinsured women; and

WHEREAS, regular cervical cancer screening tests are an effective way to detect the disease early, allowing for early diagnosis and treatment which significantly increase a woman's chance of survival; and

WHEREAS, in the past 40 years, the number of cases and deaths from cervical cancer has decreased significantly, due in part to the development of the HPV vaccination; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of prevention and detection methods among patients and health care providers is a key component in safe-guarding cervical health; with HPV vaccination, as well as routine screening and follow-up, cervical cancer is highly preventable; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages organizations, health care practitioners, and all people to promote awareness about cervical cancer and to support patients currently battling cervical cancer and those who have lost loved ones to this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim January, 2021, as "CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

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Roy Cooper Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fourth day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.