



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Public Law 99-483, enacted by Congress in 1987, designated March as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is home to almost 200,000 people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities throughout all 100 counties of our state; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of all North Carolinians to recognize and acknowledge that it is not disabilities, but unjust societal barriers and attitudes that can keep individuals from realizing their full potential at school, work, home, and/or in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, all North Carolinians can contribute to improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities by becoming advocates and supporters of their increased independence, capacity, and leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, expecting and enabling people with developmental disabilities to function independently and productively within our societal and economic structures can strengthen our state in all areas, including public and private sectors; and

**WHEREAS**, to fulfill the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Executive Order No. 92, Employment First for North Carolinians with Disabilities, the State of North Carolina commits to expanding opportunities for competitive employment and providing equal access to integrated education, housing, health care, and civic engagement to ensure full community participation for individuals with developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina commends the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities, other state agencies, businesses, organizations and individuals throughout our state working to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families through advocacy, capacity building, and systems change;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March, 2020, as “**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES 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-fifth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth