



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

GASTROSCHISIS AWARENESS DAY

2021

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, gastroschisis is a rare birth defect in which the baby's intestines protrude through a hole in the abdomen and appear outside the body; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1 in 2,229 individuals are born with gastroschisis in the United States and 1 in 2,174 individuals are born with this disease in North Carolina annually; and

WHEREAS, many Americans living with gastroschisis have serious and debilitating conditions, such as slow growth, short bowel syndrome, long term feeding problems and other life-threatening abdominal issues that require multiple surgeries and possible organ transplants; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by gastroschisis often experience a sense of isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis and limited or inaccessible treatment options; and

WHEREAS, the causes of gastroschisis are relatively unknown, and patients and their families take on much of the fundraising efforts for research to better understand, diagnose, and treat the disease; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina joins Avery's Angels Gastroschisis Foundation (AAGF) in raising awareness of this rare congenital disorder and encouraging people to support those and their families affected by gastroschisis in our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 30, 2021, as "GASTROSCHISIS AWARENESS DAY" 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 ninth day of July 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-sixth.