

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

## NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

2023

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, each year, National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is observed during Black History Month to raise awareness about the impact of HIV on Black or African American communities, and to acknowledge progress in HIV prevention and care, and linkage to treatment for Black/African American people; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 40,100 people in North Carolina are living with HIV/AIDS, including an estimated 4,500 people with HIV who are undiagnosed; and

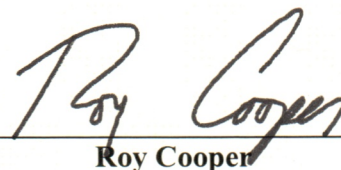
**WHEREAS**, it is possible to end the HIV epidemic by suppressing the virus so that transmission does not occur, by promoting PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis), along with other proven prevention strategies that significantly reduce the risk of acquiring HIV; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health developed a Plan to End the HIV Epidemic in the state that encourages regular testing and screening of those who may be at risk for HIV; and

**WHEREAS**, Black/African American men and women continue to experience the highest rates of new HIV diagnoses with 72.9 cases per 100,000 for men and 15.7 cases per 100,000 for women, all of whom must overcome structural and other barriers to care; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina, local health departments, people living with HIV, HIV/AIDS community based organizations, local hospitals, medical providers, and community and faith-based allies will continue to work collaboratively to overcome all barriers to HIV testing, prevention, and treatment, and to challenge stigma and improve education, prevention, and access to care;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 7, 2023, as "NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY" 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 second day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.