

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

PANS/PANDAS AWARENESS DAY

2022

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndromes (PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) are serious medical issue that affects the lives of many children across North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, children with PANS and PANDAS experience the onset of three or more of the following neuropsychiatric symptoms: OCD, tics, restricted eating, emotional lability, depression, irritability, aggression, oppositional behaviors, behavioral regression, deterioration in handwriting, loss of math skills, sensory or motor abnormalities, sleep disturbances, enuresis, urinary frequency; and

WHEREAS, based on estimates of incidence from National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) experts, PANS and PANDAS likely impact around 1 in 200 children in the United States; and

WHEREAS, lack of awareness has led to misdiagnosis and failure to diagnose most children with PANDAS/PANS in the State of North Carolina despite the fact that treatment is often as simple as generic antibiotics and over the counter anti-inflammatories; and

WHEREAS, lack of recognition and failure to diagnose often leads to increased costs to taxpayers from children requiring special services within the school system and intensive in-patient psychiatric care covered by Medicaid; and


WHEREAS, PANS and PANDAS can be very serious disorders in which some children have been lost to suicide due to lack of treatment or insufficient treatment; and

WHEREAS, Foundation For Children With Neuroimmune Disorders is a 501c3 non-profit corporation that advocates for all children with these conditions to be promptly diagnosed and treated appropriately within their own communities; who aim to accomplish this by sponsoring medical provider education, working with insurance companies, and reaching out to schools, families, and therapists to increase awareness; and

WHEREAS, greater awareness is necessary to prevent needless suffering of children and families of North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2022, as “PANS/PANDAS 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 sixth day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.