



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Rhode Island Direct Support Professionals  
Recognition Week**

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals empower people with disabilities to fully participate in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals provide a broad range of individualized supports, including—

- Assisting people with disabilities to prepare for the workforce through job training and job coaching;
- Assisting people with disabilities to live life in the mainstream of their communities alongside of their non-disabled peers
- Assisting people with disabilities to navigate daily home life through meal preparation and personal care including administering medication, bathing, dressing and other aspects of daily living;
- Assisting people with physical disabilities with access to their environment;
- Providing transportation to school, work, religious, and recreational activities;
- Helping with general daily affairs such as assisting in financial matters, medical appointments and personal interests;
- Providing essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to their family, friends and community; and

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals have been and continue to be an essential part of the deinstitutionalization movement around the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim September 10 – September 16, 2017 as: ***Rhode Island Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week*** in the state and encourage all residents to recognize the contributions of DSPs in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 28 day of August, 2017



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gina M. Raimondo".

Gina M. Raimondo  
Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nellie M. Gorbea".

Nellie M. Gorbea  
Secretary of State