

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are the primary providers of publicly-funded long-term support and services for individuals of all ages with intellectual, developmental, physical, and other disabilities or limitations; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals build close, respectful, and trusted relationships with the individuals they support; and

WHEREAS, by providing an array of personal care services to people who require assistance with personal hygiene, medications, mobility, meal preparation, transportation, participation in school, work, religious activities and other vital daily activities, direct support professionals help those with disabilities remain in their homes, connect with their families, and fully integrate in their communities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals often lack public recognition and adequate compensation in wages or benefits, which leads to industry-wide high turnover and vacancy rates; and

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week is an opportunity to acknowledge the vital role direct support professionals play in enhancing the lives of those with disabilities, strengthening communities and supporting our most vulnerable citizens, for which they deserve our respect and deepest admiration.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2015 as:

Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to recognize the dedication and contribution of direct support professionals in assisting individuals with disabilities and their families.

Dated: September 10, 2015



Bill Walker

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*