



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas the Empire State recognizes direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals who are the primary providers of long term supports and services for millions of individuals with disabilities; and

Whereas through the course of a relationship built on trust and respect, direct support professionals assist individuals with disabilities with their personal needs on a daily basis; and

Whereas direct support professionals provide a broad range of support, including the preparation of meals, helping with medication, bathing, dressing, mobility, transportation, and general daily affairs; and

Whereas maintaining strong familial relationships, participating in social activities, and increasing community involvement help individuals with disabilities enjoy a well-rounded and engaged life, and direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their families and communities; and

Whereas the work of direct support professionals is key to helping individuals with disabilities integrate and interact successfully within their communities and allows the individuals and their families to avoid more costly institutional care; and

Whereas, the majority of direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings and, with this trend projected to increase over time, there is a growing shortage of these professionals in communities across the nation; and

Whereas, during this weeklong observance, all New Yorkers join to recognize the dedication and vital role of direct support professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages, and extend appreciation for their contributions that help many overcome challenges and reach their full potential;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2015 as

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this tenth day of September in the year two thousand fifteen.

Governor

Wickham J. Mahon
Secretary to the Governor