

# Proclamation

by

Steven L. Beshear  
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



*To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:*

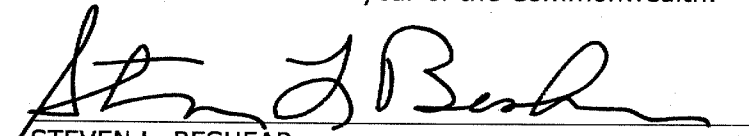
- WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court has affirmed federal and state policies that assert the right of an individual to live in his or her home and community; and
- WHEREAS, Direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistants and attendants, in-home support workers and paraprofessionals are the primary providers of publicly funded, long-term supports and services for millions of individuals; and
- WHEREAS, A direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with a person with disabilities, assisting him or her with their most intimate needs each day; and
- WHEREAS, Direct support professionals enable people with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives and are key to allowing them to stay connected to their families and live successfully in their communities, avoiding costly institutional care; and
- WHEREAS, Most direct support professionals are now employed in home and community-based settings, and this trend is projected to increase over the decade; and
- WHEREAS, The majority of direct support professionals are female, and many are the sole breadwinners for their families; and
- WHEREAS, There is a critical and growing nationwide shortage of direct support professionals;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVEN L. BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim the week beginning September 8-14, 2013, as

## DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

in Kentucky, in gratitude for the dedication and vital role of these workers in enhancing the lives of people with disabilities of all ages.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Thirteen and in the 222<sup>nd</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

  
STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

  
ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES  
SECRETARY OF STATE