

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2015

- WHEREAS,** *The majority of direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings and this trend is projected to increase in the future. There is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals in every community throughout the United States; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Direct support professionals are the key to allowing individuals with disabilities to live successfully in their own communities, and to avoid more costly institutional care; and*
- WHEREAS,** *It is appropriate that recognition be given to the vital role direct support professionals have in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Increased public understanding and appreciation is needed to honor the important contributions of the direct support professionals in supporting the needs that reach beyond the capacities of millions of families in the United States; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is proud to commend direct support professionals as integral in supporting the long-term support and services system of the United States.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2015 as DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 13th day of September
Two Thousand and fifteen

Lawrence J. Hogan Jr.
Governor

Robert H. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. Wolkowitz
Secretary of State