

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term supports and services for thousands of individuals with developmental disabilities and assist individuals with intimate needs on a daily basis—including the preparation of meals; helping with medications; bathing; dressing; mobility; getting to school, work, religious, and recreational activities; and general daily affairs; and

WHEREAS, a direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with an individual with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a direct support professional provides essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to the family and community of the individual and enables individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are the key to allowing an individual with disabilities to live successfully in the community of the individual, and to avoid more costly institutional care; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals work and pay taxes, but many remain impoverished and are eligible for the same Federal and State public assistance programs on which the individuals with disabilities served by the direct support professionals must depend;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 13 – 19, 2015 as

Direct Support Professional Recognition Week

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.



Signed this 27th day of August, 2015

A blue ink signature of Governor Jay Inslee.

Governor Jay Inslee