## NORTH DAKOTA

## $PROCLAMATION \equiv$

## AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH MARCH 2021

WHEREAS, North Dakotans recognize the importance of preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies, and in North Dakota there exists a long history of helping neighbors in need and voicing gratitude for those who do; and

WHEREAS, during the trying times of the coronavirus pandemic, people have stepped up to help others in need, whether it was responding to this year's record-breaking disasters across the country or rolling up their sleeves to give blood when our country faced a severe blood shortage or delivering emergency communication services and support for military and veteran health care facilities throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota, local families have relied on American Red Cross volunteers for comfort and hope while coping with the COVID-19 pandemic, multi-family fires and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, last year, many American Red Cross volunteers were deployed locally and nationally in support of disasters throughout North Dakota and several disaster-stricken states with back-to-back hurricanes and record-breaking wildfires to alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies, and volunteers also helped 696 people affected by 140 home fires and local disasters in North Dakota by addressing their urgent needs such as food, lodging and recovery support; and

WHEREAS, American Red Cross volunteers have supported local families in other ways, too; the American Red Cross provides nearly 40% of the nation's blood and blood components, and last year in North Dakota the Red Cross held 14 blood drives that collected 392 units of blood; and

WHEREAS, this lifesaving work is vital to strengthening our communities' resilience, and March is a special time to honor the kindness of our neighbors who aid families in need every day in North Dakota; and we ask others to join in their commitment to care for people in need.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 2021, AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

OF NORTH DO

Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE