STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATIO

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK SEPTEMBER 12-18, 2021

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential care and long-term support and services to individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals ensure that individuals with disabilities thrive through connections to their families, friends and communities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide a broad range of support to individuals with disabilities to help them live meaningful and productive lives, including assisting with personal care, medication management and other aspects of daily living; assisting with accessing the community and securing gainful employment; and transportation to school, work or other activities; and

WHEREAS, more than 5,300 North Dakotans are employed as direct support professionals in home- and community-based settings; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals demonstrated their dedication, professionalism and capacity to care by providing critical support to some of North Dakota's most vulnerable citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to recognize the dedication of direct support professionals and the important role they play in supporting the state's long-term care system and enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 12-18, 2021, DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK in the State of North Dakota.

GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger SECRETARY OF STATE