



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

**A PROCLAMATION  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS: A developmental disability is a life-long, severe and chronic mental and/or physical impairment, manifested before the age 22 that results in substantial functional limitations in three or more areas of life activity, including self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility and economic self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS: Since its inception in 1971, the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities has become a leading resource for guiding, supporting, joining and developing inclusive communities across Georgia for people living with disabilities while promoting activities and creating opportunities that enable people with developmental disabilities to exercise their rights to live, learn, work, play and worship in the place and manner of their choice; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities works with a broad coalition of individuals, family members, community groups, civic organizations and government agencies to improve the quality of life of Georgians with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS: It is important that individuals with disabilities continue to have opportunities to live productive and meaningful lives with employment, a place to call home in the most integrated setting possible and an engaged community of family and friends; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2016 as DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 17th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF

