

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

September 9-15, 2018

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are integral to the physical and mental health and well-being of veterans, senior citizens, and individuals of all ages with intellectual, developmental, and other disabilities who receive services for severe chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their family, friends, and community and enable them to live meaningful lives in a community of their choice; and

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

WHEREAS, a direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs on a daily basis, and provides a broad range of support, from preparing meals and medications to personal care to transporting clients to school, work, and other activities; and

WHEREAS, the participation of direct support professionals in medical care planning is critical to the successful transition from medical events to post-acute care and long-term support and services; and

WHEREAS, there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals in every community throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals, including direct care workers, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals, are the primary providers of long-term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities.

THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim September 9-15, 2018, to be DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to recognize and appreciate the dedication and contributions of these providers to enhancing the lives of their clients.

**GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor,
at the City of Harrisburg, this fourteenth day of
September two thousand eighteen, the year of the
commonwealth the two hundred forty-third.**



Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor