
State of Iowa
Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA
PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their families, friends, and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** direct support professionals support individuals with disabilities in making person-centered choices that lead to meaningful, productive lives; and
- WHEREAS,** a direct support professional must build a close, respectful, and trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS,** direct support professionals are integral to helping individuals with disabilities live successfully in their communities, avoiding more costly institutional care; 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,** direct support professionals are a critical element in supporting individuals who are receiving health care services for severe chronic health conditions and individuals with functional limitations; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a documented critical, and increasing shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States, the majority employed in home and community-based settings and that trend is projected to increase over the next decade; and
- WHEREAS,** many direct support professionals-
1. are the primary financial providers for their families;
 2. are hardworking, taxpaying citizens who provide a critical service in the United States; and
 3. continue to earn low wages, receive inadequate benefits, and have limited opportunities for advancement, resulting in high turnover and vacancy rates that adversely affect the quality of support, safety, and health of individuals with disabilities.

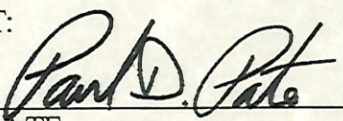
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim September 9th-13th 2024 as:

Direct Support Professionals Week

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS 9th DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR.


KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:


PAUL PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE