

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a complex condition that affects each person differently, resulting in unique strengths and challenges; and
- WHEREAS, autism affects an estimated 1 in 54 children and 1 in 45 adults in the United States; and
- WHEREAS, autism can cause challenges with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, and repetitive behaviors and is often accompanied by medical conditions that impact quality of life; and
- WHEREAS, a comprehensive, collaborative approach can help advance research and lead to a better understanding of the many forms of autism while strengthening advocacy efforts and ensuring access to services and resources throughout the life span; and
- WHEREAS, early diagnosis and intervention tailored to individual needs can have lifelong benefits, easing the transition to adulthood and fostering greater independence; and
- WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by autism need access to reliable information and supports that can contribute to better opportunities for people with autism to reach their greatest potential.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as

### AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

and April 2, 2021, as

### WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to ensure that individuals with autism are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives.



**HENRY McMASTER**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**