

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, public health programs and services are essential to a strong, successful health care system that benefits all of our residents regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic strata; and

WHEREAS, public health programs and services throughout South Carolina protect and promote personal, community, and environmental health, as well as highlight public health achievements and raise awareness of issues important to improving the public's health; and

WHEREAS, with nearly 1 million Americans dying every year from diseases that could be prevented, even small preventive changes and initiatives can make a big difference in leading healthier lives; and

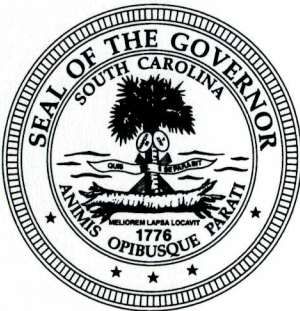
WHEREAS, each year, chronic illnesses such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes are responsible for millions of premature deaths and cause Americans to miss 2.5 billion days of work, resulting in lost productivity totaling more than \$1 trillion; and

WHEREAS, with the theme, "Public Health: Where Do I Fit?" the 2012 observance of Public Health Month helps raise awareness of the role everyone has to play, and each action, no matter how small, can make a big difference in a community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

### PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to take preventive measures to live longer and healthier lives, and raise awareness about the importance of prevention and wellness throughout our communities and state.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA