

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, mental illnesses are medical conditions that interfere with an individual's mood, thinking, behavior, and ability to cope with life; and

WHEREAS, from bipolar, eating, and anxiety disorders to schizophrenia and depression, mental illness responds to treatment, and recovery is possible; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and proper treatment, including medication, interpersonal and cognitive behavior therapies, support groups, and other community services, are critical to the control of symptoms and recovery from mental illness; and

WHEREAS, while mental illness can affect people of all ages, races, and backgrounds, increased awareness can lead to a change in negative attitudes, a reduction in feelings of stigma and discrimination, and a pursuit of treatment and services.

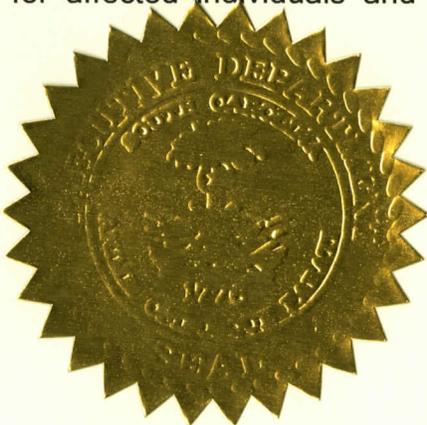
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 4 - 10, 2015, as

### MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK

and October 7, 2015, as

### SOUTH CAROLINA MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to help raise awareness of the importance of early diagnosis and active participation in treatment protocols to an improved quality of life and positive recovery outcomes for affected individuals and their families.



Handwritten signature of Nikki R. Haley in black ink.

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA