

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** an estimated 40 million Americans have some type of communication disorder with an annual cost of approximately \$154 to \$186 billion due to lost work productivity, special education, and medical treatment; and

**WHEREAS,** audiologists and speech-language pathologists are professionals who specialize in helping individuals with communication disorders lead independent, productive, and fulfilling lives; and

**WHEREAS,** dedicated audiologists and speech-language pathologists across the Palmetto State offer quality education and healthcare services to our citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** the observance of Better Hearing and Speech Month provides an opportunity to raise awareness of communication disorders and services available to help overcome them.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2016 as**

### BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the achievements of audiologists and speech-language pathologists in improving the quality of life for people with communication disorders and celebrate those individuals who have overcome their communication disabilities.



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

**NIKKI R. HALEY**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**