

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** populated by people who know each other, listen to and respect each other, and work together to benefit the community, rural communities in South Carolina and throughout the United States are wonderful places to live and work; and

**WHEREAS,** meeting the unique healthcare needs of rural citizens is constantly evolving due in part to accessibility issues, a lack of providers, and an aging population suffering from a greater number of chronic conditions; and

**WHEREAS,** ambulatory and emergency medical services are especially critical in rural areas where 20 percent of the nation's population lives and 60 percent of trauma deaths occur; and

**WHEREAS,** in addition to being sources of innovation and resourcefulness that reach beyond geographical boundaries to deliver quality care, rural hospitals are, typically, the economic foundation of their communities; and

**WHEREAS,** Rural Health Day honors healthcare providers throughout the Palmetto State who provide comprehensive, compassionate, patient-centered, and holistic services to our rural and underserved communities while raising awareness of the challenges that rural areas face in accessing quality healthcare services.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 21, 2013, as

### RURAL HEALTH DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to ensure access, quality, and equity in rural health services.



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

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