



State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the people of the Palmetto State, I am pleased to welcome you to the 2015 Miss Victorious Gala. I would also like to thank the sponsors for their generous contributions that make this event possible.

This promises to be an exciting evening as you celebrate *Triumph Over Adversity* and some amazing young women who will inspire you with their perseverance, intelligence, and strength. From food, dancing, and a silent auction to the selection of Miss Victorious, the gala will provide a festive night for all in attendance. At the same time, your presence tonight benefits three organizations that play a critical role in assisting women in crisis, and I am grateful to the North Columbia Business Association and the sponsors of this event for shining light on the destructive culture of domestic abuse that exists throughout our state. We are fortunate to have the compassionate services of the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse, Hannah House, and Sistercare to help mend broken lives and build stronger communities.

Michael and I thank all of you for your support of the Miss Victorious Gala and hope you have a wonderful evening. God bless.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nikki R. Haley".

Nikki R. Haley

NRH/kt

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** the crime of domestic violence violates a person's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity through the systematic use of physical, sexual, and/or psychological assault or abuse in order to exert control over that individual; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the Violence Policy Center, South Carolina is ranked 2nd in the nation for the number of women killed by men; and
- WHEREAS,** the effects of domestic violence on children, including over 6500 South Carolina young people that entered domestic violence programs for the first time in 2012, can be devastating, causing depression and psychological distress and raising the likelihood of physical violence among those who witness it; and
- WHEREAS,** Domestic Violence Awareness Month calls attention to the importance of working together to assure a life free from harm for all South Carolinians.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2014 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to join together in the campaign to eliminate domestic violence while reaching out to its victims and letting them know that help is available.



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

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects adults and children in South Carolina not only as victim survivors but also as family members, loved ones, friends, neighbors, or coworkers of a victim; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault is one of the most devastating crimes in our society today, with victims often suffering lifelong pain from physical injury and serious emotional trauma; and

WHEREAS, volunteers and service providers in our communities are dedicated to providing care to sexual assault survivors through 24-hour hotlines, counseling, support groups, advocacy, medical care, and education; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to sexual violence and educates the public and individuals on how to prevent, treat, and heal from this personal violation.

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

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to prevent sexual assault and ensure a life free from harm for the residents of the Palmetto State.



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

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA