

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse and addiction are public health issues with serious consequences for all South Carolinians, including increased costs to the healthcare, welfare, and criminal justice systems as well as to the business community; and

WHEREAS, alcohol use by young people, a critical problem for our state, is the major cause of loss of life for people under 21, and alcohol-related car crashes are the leading cause of those deaths; and

WHEREAS, across South Carolina, 22 percent of high school students admit to consuming five or more drinks in a row on more than one occasion in the past month while 51 percent of college students admit to binge drinking on more than one occasion in the past two weeks; and

WHEREAS, this time of year brings an increase in incidences of underage drinking in conjunction with Spring Break activities, proms, and "First Week" trips to the beach; and

WHEREAS, coordinated by the Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services, the "Out of Their Hands" campaign during April will help raise awareness of the dangers of underage alcohol use and increase law enforcement efforts to limit access to alcohol by young people.

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

ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to support efforts that prevent alcohol abuse and underage drinking in our communities, particularly those that recognize and encourage youth who have made the decision to remain free of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA