

**WHEREAS,** alcohol and drug addiction is a major public health problem, affecting millions of Americans at a cost of billions of dollars per year; and

**WHEREAS,** addiction professionals are uniquely qualified, frontline health care professionals vital to the process of guiding patients with addictive disorders to recovery; and

**WHEREAS,** these dedicated professionals are committed to increasing public knowledge of alcohol and drug dependency and to enhancing the care of individuals, families, and communities through treatment, education, and prevention programs; and

**WHEREAS,** National Addiction Professionals Day recognizes and honors the work of addiction professionals while raising awareness about the effectiveness of alcohol and drug addiction treatments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 20, 2009, as

## **ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS DAY**

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize addiction professionals in the Palmetto State for their commitment to reducing chemical dependency among our residents.