

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** lupus is an inflammatory disease that can cause severe damage to various systems of the body, including the joints, skin, kidneys, blood cells, brain, heart, and lungs, when the immune system attacks one's own tissue and organs; and
- WHEREAS,** it is estimated that as many as 1.5 million Americans and 5 million people worldwide suffer from a form of lupus; and
- WHEREAS,** while lupus is most often diagnosed in women between the ages of 15 and 40, the disease affects people of all ages; and
- WHEREAS,** the most common symptoms of lupus, including extreme fatigue, headaches, painful or swollen joints, anemia, and hair loss, can mimic numerous other diseases, and a lack of awareness of the symptoms and health effects of lupus lead many people to suffer several years before obtaining a correct diagnosis and medical treatment.

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

LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of the need for continued research into the causes of and a cure for this chronic, debilitating disease and to offer support to the individuals and families it affects.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA