

WHEREAS, home care and hospice services in communities across our state and nation provide for an individual's health and social needs across the continuum of life and offer love, comfort and support at the end of life; and

WHEREAS, home care and hospice services enable South Carolinians to receive professional medical treatment, pain and symptom control, and emotional and spiritual support in their own homes, surrounded by family and friends; and

WHEREAS, professional and compassionate home care providers and hospice staff and volunteers, including physicians, nurses, social workers, therapists, counselors, health aides and clergy, provide comprehensive care and attend to the particular needs and wishes of each patient; and

WHEREAS, striving to keep families together while preserving an individual's independence and dignity in the setting of their choice, home care and hospice services help strengthen family bonds, lessen caregiver stress and offer an alternative to placement in more costly institutional settings; and

WHEREAS, high-quality home care and hospice services support the right of every individual, regardless of age, health or social status, to be treated with the utmost dignity, respect and care.

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

HOME CARE AND HOSPICE MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to increase awareness of the importance and availability of home care and hospice services to the residents of the Palmetto State.