



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK
September 13-19, 2020

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are integral to the physical and mental health and well-being of veterans, senior citizens, and individuals of all ages with intellectual, developmental, and other disabilities who receive services for severe chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their family, friends, and community and enable them to live meaningful lives in a community of their choice; and

WHEREAS, a direct support professional must build a close, respectful, and trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs on a daily basis, and provides a broad range of support, from preparing meals and medications to personal care to transporting clients to school, work, and other activities; and

WHEREAS, the participation of direct support professionals in medical care planning is critical to the successful transition from medical events to post-acute care and long term support and services; and

WHEREAS, there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals in every community throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals, including direct care workers, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals, are the primary providers of long-term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities.

*THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2020, to be **DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK**. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to recognize and appreciate the dedication and contributions of these providers to enhancing the lives of their clients.*



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-sixth day of August two thousand twenty, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-fifth.

Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor