



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### ADDICTION TREATMENT WEEK

- WHEREAS: Substance use disorder refers to the continued use of alcohol or other substances that results in physical or mental impairment or distress; and
- WHEREAS: Substance abuse disorder affects more than 20 million Americans of all ages, races, and backgrounds; and
- WHEREAS: Addiction is a chronic illness that involves a number of brain disorders and often requires medical attention and other treatment; and
- WHEREAS: More than 64,000 individuals in the U.S. died from a drug overdose in 2016, of which 42,000 were the result of opioid abuse. In addition, more than 88,000 people die each year due to alcohol abuse; and
- WHEREAS: It is estimated that only 1 in 10 individuals affected by addiction will seek and receive the treatment needed to rebuild and reclaim their lives; and
- WHEREAS: Treatment is the most effective intervention for dealing with addiction and saving the lives of those affected by substance abuse disorder. Such services include medical treatment, long-term and short-term residential treatment, outpatient treatment programs, and individualized drug and group counseling; and
- WHEREAS: Addiction Treatment Week provides an opportunity to generate a greater understanding of the devastating impact of addiction on those affected, as well as their families, friends, and communities; and
- WHEREAS: During Addiction Treatment Week, organizations such as the Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Addiction Medicine will work to increase public awareness of the treatments available to those affected by substance abuse disorder; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 23–29, 2018, as ADDICTION TREATMENT WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley  
CHIEF OF STAFF