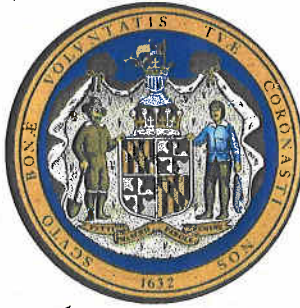


The State of Maryland



Proclamation

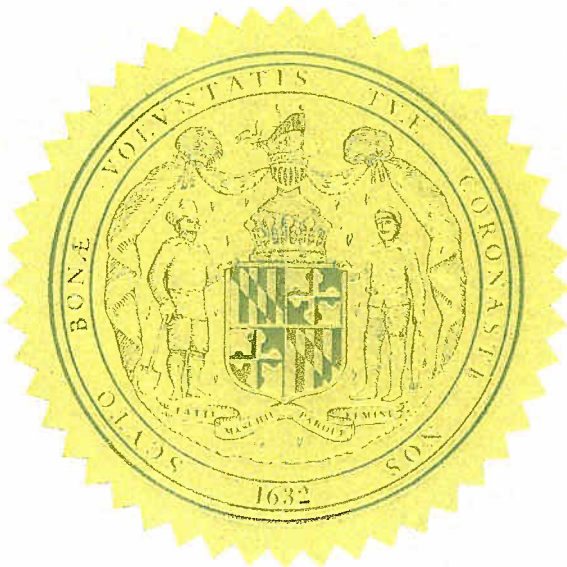
From the Governor of the State of Maryland

NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK SEPTEMBER 14 - 18, 2009

- WHEREAS,** *Direct support workers, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals are the primary providers of publicly funded long term support and services for millions of individuals; and*
- WHEREAS,** *A direct support professional assists an individual with disabilities with the most intimate needs, on a daily basis. Direct support professionals provide a broad range of support, including assistance with important daily and personal activities; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Direct support professionals enable individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, productive lives. The service they provide is the key to allowing an individual with disabilities to live successfully in the community of the individual, and to avoid more costly institutional care; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is proud to join in honoring the accomplishments, commitment and outstanding contributions made by our nation's direct support professionals.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 14 - 18, 2009 as NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this celebration to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 14th day of September
Two Thousand and nine



Martin O'Malley
Governor

Robert Ehrlich
Lt. Governor

Joe C. McQuinn
Secretary of State