

STATE OF NEW JERSEY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the profession of Social Work was founded and proliferated in the late 19th century to address economic and social justice issues; and

WHEREAS, social work is a career calling that focuses on the wellbeing and structural dynamics of individuals, families, groups and communities; and

WHEREAS, social workers are dedicated to enhancing the lives of people in every age group, race, culture, gender and religion, every day, through advocacy and empowerment; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Social Work Month theme, "Social Work: Compassion and Action," highlights the importance of empathy and tangible actions within the profession; and

WHEREAS, the social work profession is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States that provides a unique education and training to support individuals, families and communities through complex issues; and

WHEREAS, social workers are employed in many sectors of society including government, schools, universities, non-profit and faith-based agencies, the military, mental health, substance use disorder and health care facilities to address the needs of individuals, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, social workers are on the frontlines of the nation's many social crises, including addiction, suicide, youth mental health, housing, food insecurity, racial and criminal justice, and so much more, helping people get the treatment and services they need to thrive; and

WHEREAS, social workers have helped people cope with death and grief, and supported communities' recovery from natural disasters, pandemics and individual and community violence; and

WHEREAS, social workers are the largest group of providers in the United States, working daily to help people achieve sustained wellness; and

WHEREAS, social workers believe that each person has dignity and worth and that there is no limit to human potential; and

WHEREAS, social workers have helped this nation live up to its values by vigorously advocating for equal rights for all, including individuals who are Black, indigenous, people of color, people who are LGBTQIA+, people with disabilities and mental illnesses;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

MARCH 2025 AS SOCIAL WORK MONTH

in New Jersey.

Lt. GOVERNOR

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this eighteenth day of February in the year two thousand twenty-five, the two hundred forty-ninth year of the Independence of the United States.