



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**PROCLAMATION**

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH  
March 2020**

*WHEREAS, people with a developmental disability are of all racial, ethnic, educational, social, and economic backgrounds, and all are valued members of society who find fulfillment living everyday lives; and*

*WHEREAS, we value what is important to people with disabilities and their families who are striving for everyday lives no different than those of all other citizens; and*

*WHEREAS, I signed an executive order to increase integrated employment opportunities among people with disabilities in Pennsylvania because I recognize that individuals with disabilities have the capacity to positively contribute to the development of Pennsylvania's economy; and*

*WHEREAS, my administration and the Department of Human Services launched the Supporting Families Initiative, which provides grants to regional collaboratives to encourage families of individuals with developmental disabilities or autism to have high expectations for full and purposeful lives that include meaningful jobs in the community, friendships, health, safety, and spiritual and social opportunities; and*

*WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services continues to increase opportunities for competitive, integrated employment across the Commonwealth for those with developmental disabilities who wish to work; and*

*WHEREAS, educational opportunities for those with developmental disabilities have increased with the implementation of inclusive secondary education certificate programs at Pennsylvania institutions of higher learning; and*

*WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services continues to offer opportunities to individuals and family members through a growing complement of training initiatives and services that allow them to increase their knowledge about advocacy, supports, and disability services; and*

*WHEREAS, early intervention, education, employment, and home and community-based services continue to be vital to enabling citizens with a developmental disability to enjoy the rights of citizenship and to participate in the life of Pennsylvania's communities.*

*THEREFORE, to recognize the many accomplishments and contributions of people with a developmental disability, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim March 2020 as DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH. I encourage all citizens to support Pennsylvanians with a developmental disability and their families in all aspects of Pennsylvania community life.*



*GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-eighth day of February two thousand twenty, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-fourth.*

*Tom Wolf*  
TOM WOLF