

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, older adults deserve to be treated with respect and dignity to enable them to serve as leaders, mentors, volunteers, and vital participating members of our communities; and

WHEREAS, because elder abuse is a public health and human rights issue, it is extremely important to raise awareness of the issue and provide education on how to identify, address, and prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of our elders; and

WHEREAS, approximately one out of ten community residing adults over the age of 60 in the United States has suffered some type of abuse, and the prevalence of elder abuse in South Carolina is 15 percent; and

WHEREAS, only one out of twenty-four cases of elder abuse is reported to authorities; and

WHEREAS, the annual observance of World Elder Abuse Day provides an opportunity to promote a better understanding of the abuse and neglect of older adults and raise awareness of the cultural, social, economic, and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, preventing abuse of elders can help improve their quality of life and allow them to live as independently as possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 15, 2021, as

ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize and celebrate older adults and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our state.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry McMaster".

HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA