



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Hoarding disorder is a behavior characterized by four criteria: the acquisition and failure to discard of a large number of possessions; clutter that precludes activities for which living spaces were designed; significant distress and impairment as a result of the hoarding; and impact on public safety; and
- WHEREAS: Hoarding is a mental health disorder found to be related to difficulty in coping with a stressful life event, such as the death of a loved one, divorce, eviction, or losing possessions in a fire; cognitive deficits; and genetic vulnerability; and
- WHEREAS: It is estimated that between two and five percent of people in the United States hoard. When the effect upon family members and communities is taken into account, the problem becomes even greater; and
- WHEREAS: People with hoarding disorder often do not see it as a problem, making treatment challenging. However, intensive treatment can help people with hoarding disorder understand their compulsions and live safer, more enjoyable lives; and
- WHEREAS: Cleanouts done without accompanying therapeutic intervention can pose a tremendous financial burden on individuals, families, government agencies, first responders, and communities; and
- WHEREAS: Increasing public awareness of hoarding disorder will benefit local government agencies, individuals and families affected by hoarding behaviors, and communities across Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2014, as:

HOARDING AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 11th day of August.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE