



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is an opportunity to recognize the importance of inclusive environments with equal access to communication, education, employment, housing, transportation, and public accommodation; and
- WHEREAS: The contributions of people with developmental disabilities have been traditionally and systematically undervalued; and
- WHEREAS: People with developmental disabilities have many skills, and talents, and Minnesota recognizes the potential of all people, including those with developmental disabilities, to live, learn, work, and thrive; and
- WHEREAS: Individuals with developmental disabilities deserve opportunities to make informed decisions about their own lives, including resources, education, and a reliable framework of community members to offer support; and
- WHEREAS: Individuals with developmental disabilities can make choices to live in homes and communities where they can exercise their full rights, pursue meaningful and productive lives, have independent relationships, and contribute to their families, communities, state, and nation; and
- WHEREAS: It is crucial that individuals with developmental disabilities can live free of abuse, neglect, and violations of their legal and human rights; and
- WHEREAS: Our communities should be inclusive spaces that support and achieve full integration in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities of everyone; and
- WHEREAS: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month highlights efforts to reduce prejudice and misconceptions in society, increase awareness and understanding throughout our communities, and foster connections that allow individuals and families to share their experiences with others.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim March 2026 as:

## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of February.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE