

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Marty and Karen Hesch, residents of Jonesboro, Arkansas, have been an exceptional and inspirational fixture in the City of Jonesboro's philanthropic community. Marty and Karen have devoted themselves to community service and the development of resources for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Northeast Arkansas and across the state; and

WHEREAS: throughout the course of the past several years, Marty and Karen Hesch have contributed to Best Buddies expansion into Arkansas as the 24th state by raising private dollars to benefit community services such as Best Buddies and the Miracle League; and

WHEREAS: Marty and Karen Hesch have been instrumental as a driving force behind Northeast Arkansas advocacy for children with special needs by serving in multiple organizational capacities; and

WHEREAS: Marty and Karen Hesch have been appreciated by many local and regional groups. However, they shy away from public recognition with no expectations in return for their giving and work. They are a tremendous gift to Best Buddies Arkansas and the expansion board who collectively made this nonprofit work possible in the state of Arkansas.

WHEREAS: on September 24, 2015, the inaugural Best Buddies Fall Gala will honor Marty and Karen Hesch with its Best Buddies Champion Award for the passionate and truly impactful work that Marty and Karen have accomplished;

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas joins with the Central Arkansas Chapter of Parents Of Murdered Children, as well as victim-service programs, criminal-justice official, and concerned citizens throughout the State, to remember the tragedy of homicide, to honor the courage of survivors, and to strive to help the survivors rebuild their lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, acting under the authority vested in me, do hereby recognize and proclaim September 24, 2015, as

**BEST BUDDIES ARKANSAS DAY**

in honor of Marty and Karen Hesch in the state of Arkansas and invite all citizens of Arkansas to reflect upon and honor the achievements of Marty and Karen Hesch and the impact they have left upon Jonesboro and the state of Arkansas.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State