

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

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Global Peer Supporter Celebration Day (GPSCD) occurs annually on the third Thursday in October peer workers (also known as peer providers) from across the globe reflect on and celebrate the important role he/she plays in helping those with mental health, addiction, and or traumatic challenges move along the continuum of recovery and inclusion into communities of his/her choosing; and

WHEREAS: Peer Supporters are trained providers who use his/her lived experience to encourage, engage with, and support others with mental health, addiction, and or trauma challenges, using the recovery model and the principals and values of peer support to provide hope, support, and be a role model of recovery; and

WHEREAS: The belief that recovery is possible for all who experience mental health, addition, and or traumatic challenges is fundamental to the practice of peer support. Peer Supporters use the working definition of recovery, the Guiding Principles of Recovery, and Core Values to empower and assist their peers live a life of his or her choosing, improving the likelihood of long-term recovery; and

WHEREAS: Peer support is an emerging best-practice, has proven to be a recovery for mental health, addiction, and traumatic challenges, and reduces inpatient hospital days and recidivism rates; and

WHEREAS: This year's Global Peer Support Celebration Day goal is to increase public awareness of peer supporters, the services they provide (or do not provide), how they are impacting the lives of countless adults, children, adolescents, and families within the health and human services industry, and how they are providing a shining example of recovery in the places where these services are delivered;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2018, as

**GLOBAL PEER SUPPORT CELEBRATION DAY IN ARKANSAS**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of our Lord 2018.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State