

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), such as abuse, neglect, an incarcerated parent, divorce or separation of parents, or a parent who suffers from substance abuse or mental illness, are harmful events that happen during childhood; and

WHEREAS: Studies in the fields of neurobiology, psychology, epigenetics, child development, and medicine, among others, show that ACEs create toxic stress in children that has lasting consequences for their physical and emotional health well into adulthood and can be passed on to the next generation; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas ranks 1st for the percentage of children who have two or more ACEs in the 2019-2020 National Survey of Children's Health; and

WHEREAS: Over 400,000 Arkansas adults, roughly 19.1 percent of the state's population, have experienced four or more ACEs; and

WHEREAS: By working together, the negative effects of ACEs can be reduced by preventing ACEs and helping individuals build resilience to adversity through safe, stable, and nurturing relationships in the home and community;

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 September 22nd, 2022, as

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES AWARENESS DAY

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to learn more about how ACEs affects their families and communities and to join the movement to build resilience 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 31st day of August, in the year of our Lord 2022.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State