

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Behavioral health is an essential part of health and one's overall wellness, therefore acknowledging vital players of the health system and continuum of care: addiction professionals; and

WHEREAS: Addiction professionals achieve excellence through education, advocacy knowledge, standards of practice, ethics, professional and research; and

WHEREAS: In the U.S., the addiction profession workforce is estimated at more than 100,000 individuals that include counselors, educators, and other addiction-focused health care professionals who specialize in addiction prevention, intervention, treatment, recovery support, and education; and

WHEREAS: Addiction professionals are employed in the following industries: outpatient care centers; residential care services, mental health and substance abuse facilities; individual and family services; local government; psychiatric and substance abuse hospitals; and private practice. Many other addiction professionals work in prisons, probation or parole agencies, juvenile detention facilities, transitional living facilities, detoxification centers and employee assistance programs; and

WHEREAS: Addiction professionals, both certified and/or licensed promote and provide evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, with the emphasis in providing direct counseling to patients and families; assist patients with addiction management; medication-assisted treatment (if applicable) and provide community support resources for recovery; and

WHEREAS: Addiction professionals provide education about recovery and addiction; essential to combating stigma, barriers to treatment, and discrimination faced by Arkansans active in their addiction and those in sustained recovery; and

WHEREAS: To commemorate their dedication and hard work, addiction professionals invite all residents of the State of Arkansas to participate in National Addiction Professionals Day;

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 20th, 2021, as

NATIONAL ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS' DAY

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 9th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2021.



Asa Hutchinson
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston
John Thurston, Secretary Of State