

**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, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> for the percentage of children who have two or more ACEs in the 2018 National Survey of Children's Health; and

WHEREAS: Almost 62% of Arkansas adults have at least one ACE; 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 20<sup>th</sup> through September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020, as

**ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES AWARENESS WEEK**

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 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of our Lord 2020.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor