

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, serving as devoted companions, helpers, aides, best friends, and family members, assistance dogs, including guide, hearing alert, service, and alert/seizure response dogs, transform the lives of their human partners with physical and mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, through specialized training, guide dogs assist people with vision loss, helping these individuals with activities such as avoiding obstacles, finding seating, crossing streets, and entering or exiting doorways, stairways, and elevators; and

WHEREAS, hearing alert dogs respond to the presence of specific sounds, alerting their partners to doorbells, telephones, sirens, alarms, timers, sensors, crying babies, or another person; and

WHEREAS, trained to assist people with disabilities, service dogs help with walking, balance, dressing, transferring from place to place, retrieving and carrying items, opening doors and drawers, pushing buttons, pulling wheelchairs, and household chores; and

WHEREAS, seizure alert/response and medical alert/response dogs are trained to alert or respond to medical situations arising from conditions such as heart attack, stroke, diabetes, epilepsy, panic and anxiety attacks, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 7 - 13, 2016, as

ASSISTANCE DOG WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to help raise awareness of the many ways assistance dogs help mitigate disability-related limitations for individuals and to recognize the vital role they play in the lives of their partners.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA