

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, every day in New Jersey, more than 30,000 men and women work as Direct Support Professionals, providing exemplary and critical support and services to hundreds of thousands of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals have dedicated their professional lives to supporting, serving and empowering individuals with developmental disabilities, enabling them to live fulfilling lives in the community; and

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals provide a broad range of support, including help with personal care, participating in school, work, home, religious and recreational activities, learning important life skills and general day-to-day activities to foster full citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Direct Support Professionals develop strong, trusting relationships with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities that are personally enriching for both the individual and professional; and

WHEREAS, the NJ Coalition for DSP Living Wage values the hard work of Direct Support Professionals and recognizes the support of the Administration, Governor's Office and Legislature for these invaluable workers who support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the week of September 9-15, 2018 has been designated as National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week, to honor and recognize the significant contributions that Direct Support Professionals make to our communities; and

WHEREAS, every day, New Jersey's Direct Support Professionals make a tremendous difference in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, strengthening our communities and supporting our most vulnerable citizens, for which they deserve our respect and deepest admiration;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

**SEPTEMBER 9 THROUGH 15, 2018**

**AS**

**DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK**

in New Jersey and applaud the tens of thousands of Direct Support Professionals for their dedication and commitment to New Jersey's citizens with developmental disabilities.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-seventh day of August in the year two thousand eighteen, the two hundred forty-third year of the Independence of the United States.

*Shirley J. Deane*

*Phil Murphy*