State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, public health programs are essential to a strong, successful health care system that benefits all of our residents regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic strata; and

WHEREAS, public health services promote healthy behaviors, assure the quality and accessibility of health care, respond to disasters, and assist communities in recovery; and

WHEREAS, cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, immunizations, and infant mortality affect African - Americans and other minorities living in South Carolina at much higher rates than the white population; and

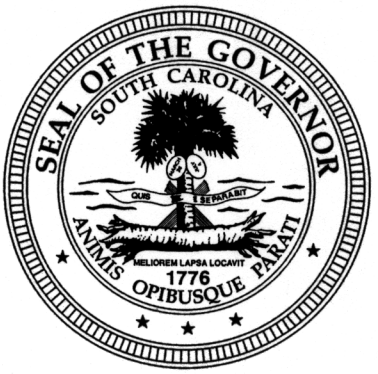
WHEREAS, working together to identify and solve health problems, advocate for strict enforcement of laws and regulations that protect our health and ensure our safety, and promote research into new and innovative solutions to health issues helps prevent disease, injury and disability while safeguarding the mental and physical well-being of our residents; and

WHEREAS, with the theme, "Eliminating Health Disparities: Communities Moving from Statistics to Solutions", this year's observance recognizes the importance of public health programs and services to an improved quality of life for all people in the Palmetto State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2004 as

PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to get regular preventive health checks and incorporate healthy practices into their daily routine.



MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA