



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

A childhood illness left Helen Keller without her sight and hearing, but that did not keep her from achieving incredible things. With the support of her family and her teacher, Anne Sullivan, Ms. Keller grew from a child who could not communicate into a woman who read five languages, attended college, wrote books, gave speeches, traveled the world, and even acted in a film. Helen Keller's inspiring life and incredible personal gifts showed the world what individuals who are deaf-blind can achieve.

From increased access to employment-related assistance and the promotion of housing and recreational options, to the availability of supportive technological devices, significant progress has been made in ensuring that all individuals who are deaf-blind have the tools to realize their potential. Increasingly, those who have multi-sensory impairments have specially trained interveners and support service providers who supply the best opportunities for those with disabilities to communicate, access information, and participate fully in their communities.

Helen Keller's life and advocacy brought awareness to the deaf-blind community, and Texans have the opportunity to continue this legacy. At this time, I encourage all Texans to participate in this deaf-blindness awareness campaign by commemorating Helen Keller's life, acknowledging the many contributions of Texans who have disabilities, and learning how best to offer support to Texans with multi-sensory impairments. We all have important roles to play in building the Texas of tomorrow.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 24-29, 2019,
to be

Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 12th day of June, 2019.

Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas