



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

An estimated 480,000 children in Texas have developmental disabilities. The hopes and dreams of these young Texans do not differ from the aspirations of all Texans — to be self-sufficient, work and earn a living, practice their faith, and help support their community. Like all Texans, people with developmental disabilities have unique abilities and experiences that strengthen our state's rich diversity, and throughout our history, these Texans have made significant contributions that make the Lone Star State a better place for us all.

There can be no doubt that Texas is stronger when every citizen is able to thrive in their community. Students with developmental disabilities who are included in classroom settings outside of special education are more likely to achieve their full academic potential. When people with disabilities are included in the general workforce, they have an opportunity to earn a competitive wage, work as part of a team, and support the local economy. People with developmental disabilities who are included and active in their community generally live longer, healthier lives and are more likely to give back to their communities. When inclusion becomes a way of life, Texas' communities thrive.

Each year, we dedicate March to raising awareness about developmental disabilities and highlighting the importance of including people of all abilities in every aspect of community life. During this month, Texans can raise awareness about how classrooms, workplaces, houses of worship, and communities are stronger when they include people of all abilities. At this time, I encourage Texans to come together to increase awareness about developmental disabilities and support full inclusion and equality for all.


Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim March 2021 to be

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
14th day of January, 2021.



Governor of Texas