

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## Men's Health Month

WHEREAS, despite advances in medical technology and research, men continue to live an average of five years less than women, with Native American and African-American men having the lowest life expectancies; and

**WHEREAS**, educating the public and healthcare providers about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and early detection of male health problems will result in reducing rates of mortality from disease; and

**WHEREAS**, men who are educated about the value that preventive healthcare can play in prolonging their lifespan and in their role as productive family members will be more likely to participate in health screenings; and

WHEREAS, fathers who maintain a healthy lifestyle are role models for their children and have happier, healthier children; and

WHEREAS, the Men's Health Network worked with Congress to develop a national men's health awareness period as a special campaign to help educate men, boys and their families about the importance of positive health attitudes and preventative health practices; and

WHEREAS, the Men's Health Month website, www.MensHealthMonth.org features resources, proclamations and information about awareness events and activities, including Wear Blue for Men's Health, www.WearBlueForMensHealth.com; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island Men's Health Month will focus on a broad range of men's health issues, including heart disease, mental health, diabetes, and prostate, testicular and colon cancers; and

**WHEREAS,** Rhode Islanders are encouraged to increase awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise and medical check-ups;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim June 2019, as: *Men's Health Month* in the state and encourage all citizens to pursue preventative health practices and early detection efforts.



Nellie M. Gorbea Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 15 day of May, 2019

Gina M. Raimondo Governor