



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: Hoarding disorder is a behavior characterized by four criteria: the acquisition and failure to discard a large number of possessions; clutter that precludes activities for which living spaces were designed; significant distress and impairment as a result of the hoarding; and impact on public safety; and

WHEREAS: Hoarding is a mental health disorder found to be related to difficulty in coping with a stressful life event, such as the death of a loved one, divorce, eviction, or losing possessions in a fire; cognitive deficits, and genetic vulnerability; and

WHEREAS: It is estimated that between two and five percent of people in the United States hoard, an impact that grows when the effects on family members and communities are taken into account; and

WHEREAS: People with hoarding disorder often do not see their behavior as a problem, making treatment challenging; however, intensive treatment can help people with hoarding disorder understand their compulsions and live safer, more enjoyable lives; and

WHEREAS: Cleanouts done without accompanying therapeutic intervention can impose a tremendous financial burden on individuals, families, government agencies, first responders, and communities; and

WHEREAS: Increasing public awareness of hoarding disorder will benefit local government agencies, individuals, and families affected by hoarding behaviors and communities across Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2017, as:

## HOARDING AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August.

  
GOVERNOR



LT. GOVERNOR