



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: In September, African immigrants are proud to celebrate their heritage and highlight African immigrant health issues; and
- WHEREAS: African Union Day is September 9<sup>th</sup> and in 2013, the United States Congress commemorated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the creation of the African Union, originally known as the Organization of African Unity; and
- WHEREAS: The African Union has designated 2014 as the Year of Agriculture and Food Security, and African immigrants across the State of Minnesota will celebrate "Africans and Agriculture: Careers, Conservation, Culture, and Cuisine" throughout the year; and
- WHEREAS: With high education and income levels, recent African immigrants have made significant contributions to American culture. African immigrants have also enriched many other areas of American life by enlisting in the military, working in community service and public policy, joining the health care field, and advancing the arts and education; and
- WHEREAS: Raising awareness about African immigrant health issues is necessary to effectively fight health disparities and build a network of African immigrant and refugee health advocates; and
- WHEREAS: A healthy and vibrant African immigrant community will continue to enhance American society with its rich heritage and culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2014, as:

## AFRICAN IMMIGRANT HEALTH AND HERITAGE 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of July.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE