

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Family Physician Month is an observance held in October to promote and support a medical specialty within primary care that provides continuing and comprehensive health care for the individual and family; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that family physicians are the only specialists qualified to treat most ailments and provide comprehensive health care for people of all ages – from newborns to seniors; and

WHEREAS, physicians focus on patient care of all kinds: acute, chronic, preventative, geriatric, palliative, prenatal, and safety-netting; and

WHEREAS, family medicine and primary care medicine are associated with better health outcomes, lower costs, increases in healthy equity and equity of access, fewer heart disease and cancer deaths, reduced low birthweight and infant mortality, longer life expectancy, fewer hospital admissions and readmissions, improved mental health outcomes, greater medications and prescription adherence, increased vaccinations and immunizations, and increased preventative screenings; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of Pennsylvanians is important and family physicians are the cornerstone of medicine to keep individuals of the Commonwealth healthy.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 2024 to be

FAMILY PHYSICIAN MONTH

in recognition of the primary care and family physicians across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to support the betterment of their health and well-being.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this thirtieth day of September two thousand twenty-four, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-ninth.

Governor Josh Shapiro