



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

- WHEREAS:** Residents of assisted living communities are active members of the larger community, offering their knowledge, life experiences, and involvement. Their past contributions continue to be a vital part of Georgia's rich history; and
- WHEREAS:** Assisted living is a critical long-term care option for older adults and individuals with disabilities that fosters choice, dignity, and independence. Assisted living communities are committed to excellence, innovation, and the advancement of person-centered care; and
- WHEREAS:** In 1995, the National Center for Assisted Living established National Assisted Living Week to honor the commitment of assisted living communities to providing long-term care to America's seniors and individuals with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS:** This year's theme of National Assisted Living Week is "A Spark of Creativity," which hopes to inspire assisted living residents to explore their creative side whether through the arts or beyond; and
- WHEREAS:** According to the American Art Therapy Association, art therapy can offer many benefits to older adults and individuals with disabilities, including improving their cognitive and sensory-motor functions, fostering self-esteem and self-awareness, cultivating emotional resilience, enhancing social skills, and reducing and resolving conflicts and distress; and
- WHEREAS:** "A Spark of Creativity" is also meant to encourage assisted living staff to think creatively and continue to explore new, innovative ways to deliver high-quality, person-centered care; and
- WHEREAS:** During this special week, assisted living communities across the country are encouraged to organize activities and events which celebrate the individuality of residents, the dedication of staff, and the deep connections formed in these settings; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 8-14, 2019 as NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen and urge all citizens to volunteer in assisted living communities, visit friends and loved ones who reside at these communities, and to learn more about how assisted living communities benefit the community at large.



*B. Kemp*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*T. K. Fleming*  
CHIEF OF STAFF