



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS DAY

- WHEREAS:** Substance misuse and substance use disorders are a major public health problem that costs American society more than \$400 billion each year, and the citizens of Georgia more than \$81 billion annually, affecting millions of Georgians; and
- WHEREAS:** 48.4 million Americans and 1.47 million Georgians ages 12 or older were diagnosed with substance use disorders in 2024, and only 19.3 percent of Americans and only 2.5 percent of Georgians received any type of treatment; and
- WHEREAS:** Addiction Professionals Day aims to increase awareness and understanding of the powerful work of addiction professionals to assist individuals with substance use disorders to achieve and sustain recovery. GACA, the Georgia Association for Addiction Professionals, reports that there are over 1,500 active addiction professionals working tirelessly to improve lives and healing Georgia's communities; and
- WHEREAS:** Addiction counselors are qualified mental health care professionals who are indispensable in the process of guiding patients with substance use disorders to recovery, maintaining the highest degree of competence and ethical practice to inspire and promote an individual's mental health and wellness; and
- WHEREAS:** Addiction professionals promote excellence in care by promoting the highest quality and most up-to-date, science-based services to our clients, our families and our communities; instill hope for long-term recovery in countless youth, adults, and families; and effectively individualize treatment and recovery supports as a means of assisting each person to follow a path toward successful recovery; and
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 30, 2025, as ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28th day of September in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Lauren M. Curry

CHIEF OF STAFF