



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION CHRONIC WOUND CARE MONTH

- WHEREAS: Chronic wounds affect those with poor blood circulation, diabetes, and other illnesses. Pressure ulcers can develop in individuals who are confined to bed rest, and they often develop into chronic wounds. The cost of treating patients with pressure ulcers is a financial burden to the State of Georgia and its taxpayers; and
- WHEREAS: Chronic wounds are a significant medical hardship to patients, healthcare professionals, and the U.S. healthcare system, affecting 5.7 million patients and costing an estimated \$20 billion annually; and
- WHEREAS: Compelling statistics regarding persons with diabetes show that 15 percent will develop problem wounds and have a 15-fold increase in the risk of amputation. Approximately 60,000 of them will undergo amputation each year. This is a significant factor in Georgia since more than one million residents are living with diabetes; and
- WHEREAS: Wound care clinicians from the State of Georgia, across the country, and around the world will join at the *SAWC/WHC* Spring meeting to educate themselves on providing better care for patients with chronic wounds; and
- WHEREAS: We are thankful for the hard work of clinicians around Georgia who are devoted to caring for patients with pressure and chronic wounds; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April, 2012, as CHRONIC WOUND CARE MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Cl. W. Iz.*

CHIEF OF STAFF