

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, the month of May 2021 has been designated by the U.S. Administration on Aging as Older Americans Month and the State of New Jersey embraces the national theme for this month, "Communities of Strength"; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is committed to valuing all individuals and recognizing their ongoing life achievements; and

WHEREAS, earlier this year, Executive Order No. 227 Established the Age-Friendly State Advisory Council, which will work to identify opportunities for creating livable communities for people of all ages in New Jersey, recommend best practices for age-friendly work, and promote community inclusion across the state; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey is home to 1.8 million individuals aged 60 and older; and

WHEREAS, older adults in New Jersey play an important role by continuing to contribute experience, knowledge, wisdom, and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, older adults are active community members involved in volunteering, mentorship, civic engagement, arts and culture; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the successes of community elders encourages their ongoing participation and further accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, through the Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services, the 21 county-based Area Agencies on Aging/Aging & Disability Resource Connections, is committed to ensuring older adults have access to a comprehensive system of supportive services that values and promotes their independence, dignity and choice; and

WHEREAS, more than one year into the global COVID-19 pandemic, our communities can help older citizens to continue to flourish by:

- Emphasizing the importance of older adults and their leadership by publicly recognizing their continued achievements,
- Presenting opportunities for older Americans to share their wisdom, experience and skills, and
- Recognizing older adults as a valuable asset in strengthening our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

## MAY 2021 AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-second day of April in the year two thousand twenty-one, the two hundred and forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

Flat May GOVERNOR