

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistance, personal attendants, in-home support workers and paraprofessionals are the primary providers of publicly funded long term support and services for millions of individuals; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals must build close, trusted relationships with individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals assist individuals with disabilities with the most intimate needs, on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are key to allowing individuals with disabilities to live independently in the community; and

WHEREAS, the majority of direct service professionals are employed in home and community based setting, and this trend is expected to increase over the next decade; and

WHEREAS, there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals in every community throughout the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 11-17, 2011 as

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 19th day of August, A.D. 2011.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor