

**State of Vermont  
Executive Department  
A Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Vermont includes a thriving community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions and sacrifices to ensure a better life for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Vermont is committed to helping all individuals live longer, healthier lives in the communities of their choice for as long as possible; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1965, the Older Americans Act has provided services that help older adults remain healthy and independent by complementing existing medical and health care systems, helping prevent hospital readmissions, and supporting some of life's most basic functions, such as bathing or preparing meals; and

**WHEREAS**, these programs also support family caregivers, address issues of exploitation, neglect and abuse of older adults, and adapt services to the needs of Native American elders; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the value of community engagement and service in helping older adults remain healthy and active while giving back to others; and

**WHEREAS**, our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social inclusion.
- Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living.
- Ensuring community members of all ages benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

in Vermont, and encourage every resident to celebrate older adults and the people who serve and support them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to the community.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of May, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

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Peter Shumlin  
Governor