

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH MAY 2025

WHEREAS, cystic fibrosis, also referred to as CF, is a genetic disease affecting almost 40,000 children and adults worldwide; 80 of whom live in North Dakota. It is caused by a defective gene that causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus which obstructs the lungs and pancreas, resulting in life-threatening lung infections and preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

WHEREAS, approximately 10 million Americans are carriers of the defective cystic fibrosis gene, and the median predicted age of survival for a person with cystic fibrosis is 61 years; and

WHEREAS, there have been advances in the treatment of cystic fibrosis, yet the number of adults with cystic fibrosis has steadily grown, and approximately 800 new cases of cystic fibrosis are diagnosed each year with 60% of the cystic fibrosis population 18 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis of cystic fibrosis permits early treatment, enhances quality of life and promotes longevity; and

WHEREAS, the treatment of cystic fibrosis depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and people diagnosed with cystic fibrosis may experience a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 2,000 variants in the CFTR gene; and

WHEREAS, clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily cystic fibrosis treatment regimen, and treatments may include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes; there are 130 world-class treatment centers in the United States and two in North Dakota which specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of cystic fibrosis; and

WHEREAS, a critical component of treating patients with cystic fibrosis includes access to innovative treatments, which can play a critical role in the lives of patients and improve the length and quality of life for people.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 2025, CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE