

State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a medical condition that may occur upon experiencing or witnessing a traumatic event, and its effects are not immediately visible nor easily identifiable; and

Whereas, PTSD became a formally recognized medical diagnosis in 1980 with symptoms that may include, but are not necessarily limited to, flashbacks to the traumatic event, hypervigilance, social isolation, loss of interest and pleasure in once-loved activities, feelings of guilt, emotional detachment, or unwanted and intrusive thoughts; and

Whereas, individuals who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder have experienced some form of severe life trauma, and while any traumatic experience can lead to PTSD, common examples include sexual assault and abuse, natural disasters, accidents or injuries to self or other, or being in a life-threatening situation; and

Whereas, we recognize in particular that many Veterans of our nation's armed forces experience PTSD after enduring military-related trauma, including suffering physical, emotional, and psychological injuries, and often carrying these experiences for many years; and

Whereas, prior to the formal recognition of PTSD as a medical diagnosis, the condition was informally referenced by several other names, including "Soldier's Heart," "Railway Spine," "Shell Shock," "War Neurosis," "Battle Fatigue," and "Combat Stress Reaction;" and

Whereas, advances in scientific understanding about the adverse impacts of trauma have helped contemporary society accurately recognize that PTSD symptoms are indicative of a medical condition that can be cared for and treated by medical professionals; and

Whereas, thanks to decades of medical research and progress, mental health clinicians today are well-equipped to provide individualized, evidence-based care for PTSD in confidential professional settings; as awareness of PTSD has increased, excellent programs – both clinical and non-clinical in nature, and based on scientific findings and principles – have been developed to better serve individuals with PTSD in effective, sustainable ways; and

Whereas, New York State has proudly stood at the forefront of many of these advances in both clinical and non-clinical programs for individuals with PTSD; and

Whereas, the twenty-seventh of June is recognized nationwide as PTSD Screening Day, and individuals who believe that they may be experiencing symptoms of PTSD are encouraged to speak with a healthcare provider, or take a brief self-screen for PTSD; and

Whereas, moreover, this is a day of hope and positive change through which individuals who screen positive for PTSD are able to begin the next clinical and non-clinical phases of their journey; we are grateful for our Veterans community and other communities of support for individuals diagnosed with PTSD, and those who administer to them with the utmost care and in ways that are tailored to meet their specific needs, while pointing toward a brighter, healthier future for them and for their loved ones;

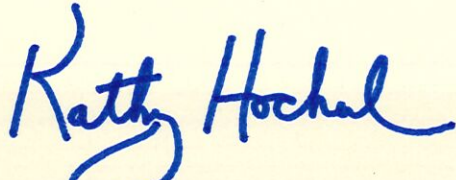
Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 27, 2023 as

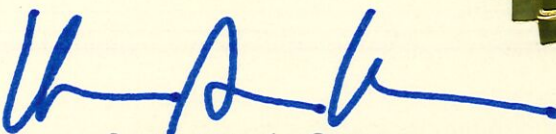
PTSD SCREENING DAY

in the Empire State.

Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-seventh
day of June in the year two thousand twenty-three.




Governor


Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh