## State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS,

March is American Red Cross Month, a special time to honor the kindness of our neighbors who aid families in need every day in Vermont, across the United States and around the world. Their dedication touches millions of lives each year as they carry out the organization's 140-year mission of preventing and alleviating suffering; and

WHEREAS,

during the trying times of the coronavirus pandemic, people have stepped up to help others in need, whether it was responding to this year's record-breaking disasters across the country or rolling up their sleeves to give blood when our country faced a severe blood shortage; and

WHEREAS,

here in Vermont, local families have relied on the Vermont Chapter Red Cross volunteers for comfort and hope while coping with disasters large and small. Red Cross volunteers help change and save lives across the state in all 14 counties; and

WHEREAS,

Red Cross volunteers help people affected by home fires by addressing their urgent needs like food, lodging and recovery support; install free smoke alarms and make households safer through the Home Fire Campaign; and

WHEREAS,

Red Cross provides global emergency communication services and supports military and veteran health care facilities across the state; help families cope with deployments and support returning combat veterans as they reintegrate into the community; and

WHEREAS,

Red Cross Restoring Family Links help reconnect families separated by international crises such as armed conflict, international disasters and migration; and

WHEREAS,

Vermonters participate in Red Cross training programs, including first responders, educators, babysitters, and people who want to be prepared to help others in an emergency; and

WHEREAS,

last year, Vermont residents made over 33,000 blood donations to the Red Cross in Vermont, ensuring lifesaving blood is available throughout our state; and

WHEREAS,

this lifesaving work is vital to strengthening our community's resilience. Nearly 200 years since the birth of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, we dedicate this month of March to all those who continue to advance her noble legacy, and we ask others to join in the commitment to care for people in need.

## AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of March, A.D. 2021.

Philip B. Scott Governor

Brittney LWilson

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs