

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** child support is essential to the overall well-being of every child; and
- WHEREAS,** every parent has a legal responsibility to ensure that their child or children are supported until they reach adulthood; and
- WHEREAS,** child support programs serve parents and custodians to improve the financial condition of children in single-parent homes; and
- WHEREAS,** approximately one in five children in the United States receives services from a child support program; and
- WHEREAS,** the mission of the Department of Social Services' Child Support Services Division is to establish child support orders and ensure that child support payments are collected; and
- WHEREAS,** over the last six years, the state has collected \$2.2 billion of child support; and
- WHEREAS,** the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) helped improve the lives of over 194,000 children during the federal fiscal year of 2023; and
- WHEREAS,** the DSS Child Support Services division collected over \$300 million during the federal fiscal year 2023 with 96 percent being distributed directly to families; and
- WHEREAS,** driven by DSS leadership, the 2023 launch of an upgraded mobile device friendly online customer service portal has made paying and receiving child support more convenient and has resulted in the creation of more than 64,000 accounts and 4.5 million visits to the portal; and
- WHEREAS,** the DSS online application portal has resulted in over 29,000 online applications being submitted by custodial parents, with online applications representing 75 percent of all applications received.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 2024 as

### CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to make it a priority to ensure our children are adequately provided for so that they may grow up to lead healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential as the leaders of tomorrow.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry McMaster".

**HENRY McMASTER**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**