

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

USHER SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2020

- WHEREAS,** Usher syndrome is a relatively rare genetic disorder caused by a mutation in any one of at least 10 genes resulting in a combination of hearing loss and visual impairment, and is a leading cause of combined deafness and blindness; and
- WHEREAS,** More than 400,000 people are affected by this genetic disorder worldwide, with approximately 50,000 of those in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Usher syndrome, which is presently incurable, impacts three major senses in the body: vision, hearing, and balance; and
- Whereas,** There are three types of Usher syndrome: Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3, which are distinguished by the severity and age when the signs and symptoms appear; and
- WHEREAS,** Due to limited public awareness, those affected with Usher syndrome may suffer with depression, anxiety, isolation, loss of independence; and
- WHEREAS,** Maryland joins the Usher syndrome community in uniting around the world to spread public awareness about this condition.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 as USHER SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 19th day of September
Two Thousand and twenty



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Byrd H. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. Winkler
Secretary of State