

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or AIDS is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus, (HIV), which progressively destroys the body's ability to fight infections and certain cancers by killing or damaging cells of the body's immune system; and

WHEREAS, approximately 38 million people worldwide are currently living with HIV/AIDS, with young people under the age of 25 accounting for more than half of all new infections; and

WHEREAS, as of the end of 2003, South Carolina ranked 7th in the nation for the rate of newly diagnosed cases of AIDS; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 observance of "World AIDS Day" provides an opportunity for people in South Carolina and around the world to join together to support the individuals, families, and communities affected by this disease and to renew our commitment to preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS, developing and delivering more effective treatments, and finding a cure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2004, as

WORLD AIDS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about HIV and AIDS and to work together to raise awareness of the threat, treatment and prevention of AIDS among the residents of the Palmetto State.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA