WHEREAS, the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol and nicotine constitute serious threats to the success and well-being of our young people; and

WHEREAS, parental influence is one of the most crucial factors in determining the likelihood of substance abuse by teenagers; and

WHEREAS, young people who regularly eat dinner with their families are less likely than the average teenager to smoke, drink, or use illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, meal times offer opportunities for families to spend time together, providing a basic structure that strengthens lasting relationships; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 observance of Family Day encourages families throughout the Palmetto State to gather at the dinner table as a means to reinforce the bonds of kinship for the future of our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2005, as

FAMILY DAY
A DAY TO EAT DINNER WITH YOUR CHILDREN

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the positive impact of strong family interaction on the well-being and future success of the young people of the Palmetto State.