

# Proclamation



## DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 11 - 17, 2016

**WHEREAS**, there are approximately 4.9 million people nationwide with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including 25 percent of whom require professional support to live, work and play in their own communities rather than an institution; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 10,000 residents of the District of Columbia have developmental disabilities with more than 2,200 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities benefiting from the assistance of direct support professionals; and

**WHEREAS**, direct support professionals partner with individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities to assist them in achieving full, and productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for compassionate, skilled and dedicated direct support professionals to provide quality support and services is expected to increase; and

**WHEREAS**, increased public awareness and appreciation is needed to recognize the important work and meaningful impact direct support professionals make in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**, do hereby proclaim September 11 -17, 2016, In Washington, DC as "DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS WEEK".



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Muriel Bowser", written over a horizontal line.