

# Proclamation



## DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 13 - 19, 2015

**WHEREAS**, direct support professionals partner with and support people with intellectual developmental disabilities so that they can live full and productive lives as valued and contributing members of their families, neighborhoods, communities, and places of work and recreation; and

**WHEREAS**, direct support professionals support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to enhance their quality of life by promoting self-determination, independence and inclusion, as well as safeguarding their health and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for dedicated, caring and skilled direct support professionals to provide quality support and services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is estimated to increase exponentially in the next five years; and

**WHEREAS**, communities and families are strengthened and enriched by the inclusion of all members of society, including people with disabilities; 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 throughout the District of Columbia:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**, do hereby proclaim September 13 -19, 2015, In Washington, DC as "**DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS WEEK**".

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Muriel Bowser". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

