



Joanne M. Mahoney  
County Executive  
Onondaga County

# Proclamation

County of Onondaga  
City of Syracuse



Stephanie A. Miner  
Mayor  
City of Syracuse

**WHEREAS**, millions of Americans live with a disability including developmental disabilities – severe physical or mental impairments that slow their learning, limiting their mobility, inhibiting their expression, and rendering them dependent on others for care and assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, millions of Americans each year experience acquired disability due to traumatic brain injury, and may therefore suffer from chronic symptoms and impairment, including problems with concentration and chronic headache, hearing, vision or speech and memory problems, as well as functional limitations or learning disabilities, requiring extensive and long term follow-up, and other Americans, including veterans who have service-connected disabilities need appropriate care and intervention; and

**WHEREAS**, people who have disabilities benefit from quality supports and services provided through a participatory system built upon the combined efforts of parents, family members, nonprofit providers, public- and private-sector employees whose commitment and compassion have moved the service system forward. Providers work to ensure that all persons with disabilities receive individualized care ensuring they will lead more productive lives and participate in education programs or enter the workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 17,000 professionals in New York State who provide advocacy and support include physical medicine and rehabilitation specialists, rehabilitation counselors and professionals, family members, self-advocates, volunteers, government officials, community members, voluntary not-for-profit providers such as NYSARC, and others, work tirelessly on behalf of people with disabilities and provide care that is highly regarded for its excellence and responsiveness to the needs of these individuals. They receive the benefit of family members and caregivers– along with professionals and officials at all levels of government – which have brought about significant changes in the public perception of youth and adults with disabilities, thus opening new doors to more independent and productive lives.

**WHEREAS**, in the past few decades, we have seen advancements in the rights and dignity of people with disabilities, increasing their incorporation in community life and helping them to achieve their goals in various areas of endeavor; and

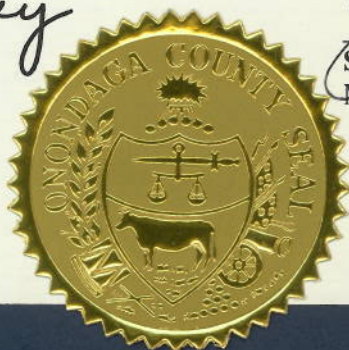
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOANNE M. MAHONEY**, County Executive of the County of Onondaga, and **I, STEPHANIE A. MINER**, Mayor of the City of Syracuse, do hereby proclaim the month of March to be

## **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH**

in Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seals of Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse this first day of March, two thousand ten.

*Joanne M. Mahoney*  
JOANNE M. MAHONEY  
County Executive



*Stephanie A. Miner*  
STEPHANIE A. MINER  
Mayor

