



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** Falls are the leading cause of injuries requiring hospitalization or treatment and injury-related deaths in Minnesota, with the vast majority of these occurring among older Minnesotans; and
- WHEREAS:** Falls contribute significantly to depression, loss of mobility, and loss of functional independence among older adults; and
- WHEREAS:** Minnesota has the fourth highest death rate for unintentional falls in the United States; and
- WHEREAS:** Factors contributing to falls include decreased lower body strength, balance, and endurance; complications from chronic conditions; use of medications; reduced vision; and unsafe home and community conditions; and
- WHEREAS:** Many falls and injuries from falls can be prevented; and
- WHEREAS:** Injuries from falls are a community health problem with many organizations, agencies, health care providers, and individuals working to raise awareness, commission research, and provide resources to prevent falls and help those who suffer from complications from falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, September 22, 2013, as:

## FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August.

  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE