

# PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** it is estimated that 18 percent of Iowa citizens are 65 years of age or older; and
- WHEREAS,** it is estimated that three out of every ten people 65 and older will fall each year; and
- WHEREAS,** falls are the leading cause of unintentional injury deaths in Iowa and the number of falls in Iowa is higher than the national average; and
- WHEREAS,** the financial toll for older adult falls is expected to increase as the population ages and may reach \$101 billion nationally by 2030; and
- WHEREAS,** the estimated average charges for fall-related hospitalizations in Iowa are increasing and account for more than \$438 million annually; and
- WHEREAS,** falls among older adults occur in all socioeconomic and cultural groups; and
- WHEREAS,** injuries from falls are primarily a preventable community health problem; and
- WHEREAS,** members of the Iowa Falls Prevention Coalition are working to increase awareness of this issue, promote multidisciplinary strategies to prevent falls and encourage citizens to take steps to protect those who are at increased risk of falling; and
- WHEREAS,** guided by a community-level collaboration of researchers, healthcare providers, and community stakeholders, Iowa is working to increase statewide fall risk screening and the dissemination of evidence-based programs in efficient and equitable ways.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, [NAME], [Title],** do hereby proclaim September 23-28, 2024 as

## FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

I HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME.  
DONE AT [CITY] THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

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[NAME]  
[Title]

ATTEST:

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[NAME]  
[Title]