



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida's 5.5 million elders are valued members of society and deserve to lead longer, healthier, and more productive lives; and

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries for older Americans and falls threaten seniors' safety and independence, and generate enormous economic and personal costs; and

WHEREAS, evidence suggests that many falls could be prevented through effective patient-doctor communication, strength and balance exercises, and home safety; and

WHEREAS, falls prevention is an essential component of senior care that may improve mental wellness in older adults and falls prevention programs can help elders remain healthy, safe, and fit; and

WHEREAS, many people who fall, even if not injured, become afraid of falling, which reduces the number of everyday activities they participate in, which leads to being less active and weaker, and at risk of falling; and

WHEREAS, Falls Prevention Awareness Week in Florida is an opportunity for the Department of Elder Affairs, Department of Health, Area Agencies on Aging, county health departments, area health education centers, senior centers, and local fall prevention coalitions, in partnership with local communities and health care providers, to work together to increase awareness about the availability and benefits of falls prevention programs, and to encourage collaboration to prevent injuries and deaths caused by falls.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing September 20-24, 2021, as *Falls Prevention Awareness Week in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 20th day of September, in the year two thousand twenty-one.



Governor