



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, the Children's Craniofacial Association (CCA) began celebrating Craniofacial Acceptance Month in 2005 to bring awareness to the thousands of children born each year in the United States who are either born with or develop a craniofacial difference, which is a structural or physical anomaly of the head and/or face; and

WHEREAS, the most well-known craniofacial difference syndrome is Cleft Lip, which is seen in over 185,000 births a year worldwide (NIDCR);

WHEREAS, Many more children are born with dozens of additional facial differences including Apert syndrome, Treacher Collins syndrome, facial palsy and Craniosynostosis which is seen in over 1,500 births a year in the United States alone (CDC); and

WHEREAS, individuals with craniofacial differences and their families often struggle to understand the diagnosis they are facing and how to move forward in their early stages of life. Families are often under emotional and financial strain due to demands resulting from ongoing and expensive medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, due to the complexity of craniofacial syndromes, the majority of affected individuals will often endure multiple surgeries before they reach adulthood; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as Children's Craniofacial Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, serves populations affected by craniofacial differences and the professions who care for them in order to empower and give hope to individuals and families affected by these facial differences, while working towards the vision of a world where all people are accepted for who they are, not how they look;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 2020, as

Craniofacial Acceptance Month

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 24th day of July 2020.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor