

STATE OF ILLINOIS



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Illinois is an increasingly diverse state, home to a rich tapestry of people and cultures who enrich our shared communities; and,

WHEREAS, although health indicators such as life expectancy and infant mortality have improved overall in Illinois, minority groups still bear a disproportionate burden of preventable disease, death, and disability compared with non-minority groups; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois' racial and ethnic minority groups account for approximately 32.3 percent of the state's population with these disparities having been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the Illinois Department of Public Health Center for Minority Health Services is to improve the health and well-being of Illinois' minority populations through the development of equitable health policies, with culturally and linguistically appropriate programs to address health disparities; and,

WHEREAS, celebrated every year in April, National Minority Health Month is an effort to raise awareness about health disparities that continue to affect racial and ethnic minority populations; and,

WHEREAS, following this year's National Minority Health Month theme, "Give Your Community a Boost!" the Illinois Department of Public Health Center for Minority Health Services will raise awareness about COVID-19 vaccination - including a booster - to help end the COVID-19 pandemic that has disproportionately affected communities of color; and,

WHEREAS, the focus this year will be on empowering communities through knowledge about COVID-19 vaccines/boosters, sharing accurate vaccine/booster information, participating in clinical trials, getting vaccinated, and practicing COVID-19 safety measures;

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2022, as **National Minority Health Month**, in support of the Illinois Department of Public Health's Center for Minority Health's efforts to help eliminate health disparities, accelerate health equity, and make the state of Illinois a stronger and healthier state.*

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-FIFTH day of MARCH, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-TWO, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FOURTH.



Deese White
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR