

Proclamation



STROKE SMART DC DAY

OCTOBER 29, 2025

WHEREAS, with approximately 1 in 5 middle-aged Americans at risk of having a stroke in their lifetime, stroke remains a major public health concern, ranking as the leading cause of serious long-term disability, costing nearly \$36.5 billion each year, putting a tremendous financial burden on individuals, families, as well as society; and

WHEREAS, stroke is the 4th leading cause of death among District residents, and the 5th leading cause of death nationwide; and

WHEREAS, stroke intervention is time-sensitive, requiring quick recognition and action to save brain function; and

WHEREAS, DC Health's *Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program* coordinates Stroke Smart education to health, education and safety-focused entities such as DC Public Schools, hospitals, clinics, medical practices, and pharmacies, among others. I encourage all city employees to participate in improving stroke literacy to educate colleagues, volunteers, and associated communities; and

WHEREAS, our community, including businesses, civic organizations, senior communities, faith-based organizations, and all residents, are urged to participate in the Stroke Smart: *Spot-a-Stroke, Stop-a-Stroke, Save-a-Life* campaign; and

WHEREAS, it is our goal to educate everyone in the District about recognizing the signs and symptoms of stroke, immediately calling 911, and making Washington, DC a model for other communities, cities, counties, and states, thereby advancing DC Health's vision of being the healthiest city in the nation by contributing to a Stroke Smart America:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim October 29, 2025, as "DC STROKE SMART DAY" in Washington, DC and do commend this observance to all Washingtonians.

