

## State of Missouri Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri includes more than 1.1 million older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions and sacrifices to ensure a better life for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri includes a growing number of older Americans who contribute their strength, wisdom and experience to our communities; and

WHEREAS, communities benefit when people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds have the opportunity to participate and live independently; and

WHEREAS the State of Missouri recognizes the need to create communities that offer the services and supports older adults may need to make choices about how they age; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri is committed to strengthening our communities by connecting with and supporting older adults, their families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri celebrates the 50th anniversaries of the 10 Area Agencies on Aging and the Silver Haired Legislature as opportunities for older Americans to be involved in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri can work to build even better communities for our older residents by:

- Not limiting our thinking about aging.
- Exploring and combating stereotypes.
- Emphasizing the many positive aspects of aging.
- Inspiring older adults to push past traditional boundaries.
- Embracing our communities' diversity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim May 2023, to be

## **OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

in Missouri, and urge all citizens to recognize the contributions of our older citizens, help to create an inclusive society, and join efforts to support older Americans' choices about how they age in their communities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 18th day of April, 2023.

Michael L. Parson GOVERNOR

ATTEST: