



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, THE U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) REPORTS THAT APPROXIMATELY 500,000 CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE (C. DIFFICILE) INFECTIONS OCCUR PER YEAR WHICH REQUIRE HOSPITAL TREATMENT OR AFFECT THOSE ALREADY HOSPITALIZED; AND

**WHEREAS**, APPROXIMATELY 29,000 PATIENTS DIE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE INITIAL DIAGNOSIS OF C. DIFFICILE WITH APPROXIMATELY 15,000 DEATHS ESTIMATED TO BE DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO C. DIFFICILE INFECTION; AND

**WHEREAS**, STUDIES INDICATE THAT C. DIFFICILE HAS BECOME THE MOST COMMON MICROBIAL CAUSE OF HEALTH CARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS IN U.S. HOSPITALS, AND COSTS UP TO \$4.8 BILLION EACH YEAR IN EXCESS HEALTH CARE EXPENDITURES FOR ACUTE CARE FACILITIES ALONE; AND

**WHEREAS**, ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE PATIENTS WITH A HEALTH CARE-ASSOCIATED C. DIFFICILE INFECTION EXPERIENCES A RECURRENCE OF THE INFECTION, AND ONE OUT OF EVERY NINE PATIENTS AGED 65 OR OLDER WITH A C. DIFFICILE INFECTION DIES WITHIN 30 DAYS OF DIAGNOSIS; AND

**WHEREAS**, HEALTH CARE FACILITIES EMPLOY DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS WHO ADVOCATE FOR IMPROVING HEALTH AND PROMOTING PATIENT AND STAFF SAFETY IN ORDER TO TREAT AND PREVENT C. DIFFICILE; AND

**WHEREAS**, IMPROVED HEALTH PRACTICES, SUCH AS THOROUGH HAND HYGIENE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING CAN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE RISK AND SPREAD OF C. DIFFICILE INFECTIONS; AND

**WHEREAS**, ENSURING THE EDUCATION OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS ON PROPER INFECTION PREVENTION TECHNIQUES HAS PROVEN TO REDUCE ALL TYPES OF HEALTH CARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS; AND

**WHEREAS**, THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF NEW MEXICO CITIZENS IS IMPORTANT TO THE HAPPINESS, PROSPERITY, AND WELL BEING OF OUR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2017, AS

## “CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH”

THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

SIGNED AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
THIS 29<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2017.

ATTEST:

*Maggie Toulouse Oliver*

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT  
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*Susana Martinez*  
SUSANA MARTINEZ  
GOVERNOR

