

A Proclamation  
By  
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

**WHEREAS**, the Aging Services Network headed by the Mississippi Department of Human Services-Division of Aging and Adult Services (MDHS-DAAS) consists of federal, state, and local agencies that help ensure that older Americans and their families have the information and assistance they need to make informed decisions and choices—these choices help families care for their loved ones, help older people stay in their homes, and provide care options other than nursing home facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme “**What We Do Makes A Difference**” recognizes the people who plan and implement programs—the Mississippi Department of Human Services-Division of Aging and Adult Services is committed to serving as this focal point, making a difference for aging citizens in Mississippi is the point of everything we do; and

**WHEREAS**, our partners within the Aging Network have a common goal of ensuring that older Americans can age in place while retaining their independence with dignity and respect; and

**WHEREAS**, the Aging Network, through state and local providers, serves as a gateway to services for older people and their caregivers—through the Network, services and support such as information and assistance, adult day care, elder abuse prevention, home-delivered meals, and services for caregivers are provided to older Americans and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, the Aging Network helps arrange supportive services ranging from transportation to and from medical appointments, grocery stores, and drug stores, to chore maintenance and personal care services; and

**WHEREAS**, programs are designed to meet the needs of all persons age 60 and older by providing access services, home and community based services, legal services, family caregiver support services, health and wellness and intergenerational programs; and

**WHEREAS**, to help navigate the Aging Services Network, the Division of Aging and Adult Services has linked with the National Aging Services Network and the Eldercare Locator, a national toll-free public directory assistance service and Web site—whether the user is an older individual who requires assistance or a caregiver who is seeking support to meet a loved one’s needs, the Eldercare Locator can help give that person a head-start in finding a solution to the problem:

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim May 2003 as

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, April 30, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE  
GOVERNOR