



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, a Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia is an opening in the diaphragm that allows the abdominal organs to push into the chest cavity; and

**WHEREAS**, a Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia is often a life-threatening birth defect because it limits the growth of the lungs; and

**WHEREAS**, a Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia occurs in every 1 out of 2,000 live births in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernias account for 8% of all major congenital anomalies; and

**WHEREAS**, proactive diagnosis and appropriate treatment of unborn babies with congenital diaphragmatic hernias minimizes the incidence of emergency situations, dramatically improving survival rates; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for increased public awareness of congenital diaphragmatic hernias; and

**WHEREAS**, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet others and know they are not alone; and

**WHEREAS**, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day promotes public awareness and encourages research efforts to one day prevent or successfully treat all those diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day can provide the opportunity to share experience and information with the public and the media in order to raise public awareness about the Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia birth defect;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2012, as

## CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS DAY

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this 19th day of April, 2012.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Julie Hargrett".

Secretary of State

