



STATE OF TENNESSEE

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, hope is a powerful force for sustaining life, motivating action, and producing positive change; and

**WHEREAS**, hope is a central concept in all belief systems encouraging people of faith to reach out to their neighbors; and

**WHEREAS**, the individuals in Tennessee most in need of hope are those living with behavioral health challenges including substance use and mental illness who have been stigmatized and shamed; and

**WHEREAS**, amazing men and women living with the experience of a life fraught with challenges share their experience, strength, and hope with others countless times per day; and

**WHEREAS**, community behavioral health providers, local governments, community groups, and faith leaders have also risen to this challenge to innovatively meet the needs of those who are struggling and provide hope of a new life; and

**WHEREAS**, hope for healing after suffering untold hurt can lead a person to restore life, rebuild relationships, and return to full participation in their family and community;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim March 10, 2024, as

*Tennessee's Day of Hope*

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 sixteenth day of January 2024.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Justin King*

Secretary of State