

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 6.7 million people currently live with chronic wounds and that number is expected to grow at more than two percent annually for the next decade, with the rising incidence fueled by an aging population and increasing rates of diseases and conditions such as diabetes, obesity, and the late effects of radiation therapy; and

**WHEREAS**, untreated chronic wounds can lead to diminished quality of life and possible amputation of the affected limb, and the chronic wound epidemic represents a cost of more than \$50 billion to the healthcare system; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Diabetes Association, more than 29.1 million people (9.3% of the population) have diabetes in the United States, and in Washington State, 11.4 percent of the adult population has diabetes, and almost two million of those living with diabetes in the U.S will develop a diabetic foot ulcer or other non-healing wound; and

**WHEREAS**, advanced wound care aims to prevent amputations and heal patients in a faster and more cost-effective manner; and

**WHEREAS**, wound care physicians and health care providers take great pride in caring for their patients, and in seeing them succeed; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of Wound Care Awareness Week is to inform patients, their families, community physicians, and the general public about the importance of advanced wound care and its ability to save lives and limbs, as awareness and education about chronic wounds will benefit current and future chronic wound patients;

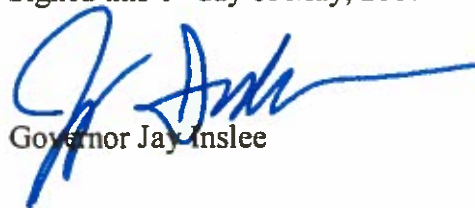
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim June 4-10, 2017 as

### *Wound Care Awareness Week*

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.



Signed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2017

  
Governor Jay Inslee