

WHEREAS, on behalf of the citizens of Macon-Bibb County, I am pleased to join the American Stroke Association, a division of the American Heart Association, in celebrating the month of May 2021 and future years as Stroke Awareness Month in Macon-Bibb County; and

WHEREAS, the aim of National Stroke Awareness Month is to inform Americans that they may be able to ‘Save A Life’ by advocating for early stroke intervention by increasing their awareness about the signs and symptoms of stroke and its devastating effects; and

WHEREAS, stroke is the fourth leading cause of death in the United States, affecting approximately 800,000 Americans each year (one death every 5 minutes); and

WHEREAS, Georgia is in the “Stroke Belt,” an area in the southeastern United States with stroke death rates that are approximately 30 percent higher than the rest of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Georgia’s age-standardized stroke death rate in 2019 was 13.3 percent higher than the national average, ranking Georgia as the 8th highest stroke death rate in the United States and with stroke-related hospitalization charges of more than \$1.6 billion each year in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Citizens of Macon-Bibb County have increased risk factors for stroke including hypertension, diabetes, obesity, tobacco use and hyperlipidemia contributing to the stroke death rate; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association 2030 Impact Goals include: increasing healthy life expectancy from 66 to at least 68 years by 2030; and

WHEREAS, through stroke prevention and community awareness, an important opportunity exists to unite the citizens of central Georgia to prevent stroke deaths,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lester M. Miller do hereby proclaim the Month of May 2021 as:

“STROKE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH”

in Macon-Bibb County, I URGE ALL CENTRAL Georgians to familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms and risk factors associated with stroke so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects stroke imposes on our state.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Consolidated Government to be affixed this ____ day of May 2021.

Lester M. Miller
Mayor

