



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, every 45 seconds someone in the United States experiences a stroke. Stroke, or brain attack, is the third leading cause of death in America, killing 160,000 people annually;

**WHEREAS**, Stroke is a leading cause of adult disability. There are more than five million Stroke survivors in the United States, with two-thirds living with moderate to severe disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, our city is in one of the most severely affected areas by Stroke;

**WHEREAS**, the United States will spend an estimated \$68.9 billion in direct and indirect costs on Stroke;

**WHEREAS**, more than one-third of Americans cannot identify a single warning sign of Stroke which includes sudden trouble talking, walking, seeing, paralysis usually on one side of the body and sudden severe headache with no known cause. If any of these symptoms occur, it is important to call 911 immediately;

**WHEREAS**, more than a half of a million strokes can be prevented a year, yet many Americans don't discuss their Stroke risks with their primary health care providers;

**WHEREAS**, public awareness of the risks and warning signs of a stroke is essential to prevention and early treatment;

**WHEREAS**, emergency treatment of Stroke can save lives, reduce disability and even possibly reverse all impacts from the stroke; and

**WHEREAS**, National Stroke Association and the American Stroke Association celebrates National Stroke Awareness Month in May and urge people to take charge of their health by asking their doctors about Stroke risks and adopting healthy lifestyle habits to lower their risk;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2009 as

## **STROKE AWARENESS MONTH**

in Greenville and encourage all citizens to ask their doctors about the prevention and warning signs of Stroke.

This 21st day of April, 2009.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor