



Office of the Governor  
State of Missouri

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative ("MAGI") was formed in 2008 and is comprised of the Thompson Foundation for Autism, the Missouri Department of Mental Health's Division of Developmental Disabilities, the Office of Special Education of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Mercy Children's Hospital, in St. Louis and Springfield; and

**WHEREAS**, the MAGI was built from the recommendation of Missouri's Blue Ribbon Panel on Autism, and is committed to promoting earlier, more accurate screening diagnosis and assessment and effective, evidence-based interventions; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2010, the MAGI published "Missouri Best Practice Guidelines for Screening, Diagnosis and Assessment" to set clear, concise guidelines for professionals and families to access screening, diagnosis and assessment for children with autism; and

**WHEREAS**, the MAGI continues to build upon its work by developing and producing a second publication in 2012 that begins where the initial publication left off; and

**WHEREAS**, the publication of "Autism Spectrum Disorders: Guide to Evidence-based Interventions" describes the next steps in the intervention process, including development and implementation of an intervention plan and uses common language to describe those interventions which are evidenced-based, those which are emerging, and those which are harmful or ineffective; and

**WHEREAS**, the MAGI has established its role as a national leader in partnering with parents and professionals to enhance the likelihood that every child is screened, diagnosed and assessed properly and, if needed, has access to effective interventions.

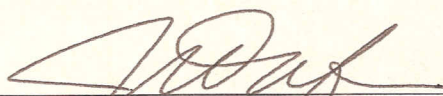
**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby recognize the

### MISSOURI AUTISM GUIDELINES INITIATIVE

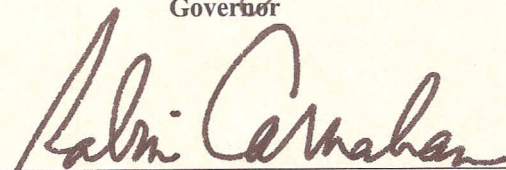
for its second, successful publication and express my appreciation for the leadership of the members who collaborated in this effort to promote a better understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorders and facilitate earlier intervention and treatment for children in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012.



  
Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon  
Governor

Attest:

  
Robin Carnahan  
Secretary of State