



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A COMMENDATION

WHEREAS: Wanda “Renee” Newkirk, a proud resident of Fitzgerald, Georgia, has been named Georgia’s 2026 Direct Support Professional of the Year by ANCOR, the American Network of Community Options and Resources; and

WHEREAS: ANCOR is a national organization representing providers that support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and its annual Direct Support Professional of the Year Awards recognize professionals who demonstrate extraordinary commitment, compassion, and service; and

WHEREAS: Renee serves as a Direct Support Professional with BrightSpring’s All Ways Caring division, providing person-centered, home and community-based support to individuals who need assistance living independently; and

WHEREAS: Renee has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the individuals and families she serves, including remaining connected to those in her care after surviving a devastating house fire that left her injured and displaced, and returning to work as soon as she was able, while actively helping those she supports build confidence and joy; and

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby commend

MS. WANDA “RENEE” NEWKIRK

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 2nd day of July in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.



B. P. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Lauren M. Curry

CHIEF OF STAFF