



The State of Maryland

Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS DAY APRIL 19, 2026

- WHEREAS,** Congenital diaphragmatic hernia is a serious birth defect occurring in one out of every 2,500 pregnancies, affecting families across the State of Maryland and around the country; and
- WHEREAS,** Congenital diaphragmatic hernia occurs when a baby's diaphragm fails to fully form, allowing abdominal organs into the chest cavity and preventing lung growth; and
- WHEREAS,** Approximately 1,600 babies are born with congenital diaphragmatic hernia each year in the United States each year; the condition is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis; and
- WHEREAS,** Those with congenital diaphragmatic hernia often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medical support for years; and
- WHEREAS,** Organizations like CDH International, the world's oldest, largest, and leading congenital diaphragmatic hernia charity, are on the frontlines in the work to support families affected by the condition and advocate for critical medical research and advances; and
- WHEREAS,** During Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day, the State of Maryland commits to doing its part to raise awareness of congenital diaphragmatic hernia, honor survivors, and remember the lives of those lost.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim APRIL 19, 2026 as CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.

*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 19th day of April
Two Thousand and twenty-six*


Wes Moore
Governor


Danna Miller


Sean P. Lee
Secretary of State

