

In 1968 the Department of Transportation issued a national uniform standard, "Emergency Medical Services," under the Highway Safety Act of 1966. This Federal initiative has provided essential training courses for emergency medical personnel, vital communications for citizen access, quicker responses and physician direction, and important specifications for ambulances, including necessary medical equipment and uniform colors and markings.

23 USC 401
note.

We salute the Nation's emergency personnel, upon whose skill and dedication we all depend.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning November 6, 1977, as Emergency Medical Services Week.

I call upon the Governors and Mayors and all other State and local officials to assist hospital administrators and physicians, fire departments, public safety agencies and ambulance services in improving emergency medical services.

I call upon Federal agencies, especially the Departments of Transportation and Health, Education, and Welfare to continue, with renewed emphasis, their assistance to States and communities in their efforts to help those in need of emergency medical assistance.

I call upon the American people to lend their support to these efforts in order that we may assure that no individual in this country will suffer due to the lack of available or adequate emergency help when in need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4536

November 9, 1977

National Family Week, 1977

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Patterns of living and working have changed during our two centuries as a Nation, and the American family has changed with them. Participation in family life is more and more a personal choice, less and less an economic and social necessity.

But even as customs have changed and many of the traditional sanctions have lost their force, the overwhelming majority of Americans have still chosen the rewards of family life. It is within the family that we first learn to communicate with other people, to give and receive love and understanding, to work together for common goals, and to respect the rights, needs and talents of others. The family teaches us responsibility and compassion, it encourages our best efforts, and it forgives our failures. It fills many of the gaps left by other institutions in our society. As a Nation we must strengthen and support the values of family life for they are inseparable from our finest national traits.

In honoring the family it is especially appropriate to acknowledge those Americans who, through adoption, open their homes and hearts to wanted children. They bring a special commitment to the family and share a special reward in nurturing their children and seeing them grow in love.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, in accordance with a joint resolution of the Congress, approved August 15, 1977 (91 Stat. 836) do hereby proclaim the week of November 20, 1977, as National Family Week and call upon the American people to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies, programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of November in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4537

November 11, 1977

Thanksgiving Day, 1977

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Although the first years of America's struggle for independence were often disheartening, our forebears never lost faith in the Creator, in their cause, or in themselves. Upon learning of the American victory at Saratoga in 1777, Samuel Adams composed the first National Thanksgiving proclamation, and the Continental Congress called upon the governors of every state to designate a day when all Americans could join together and express their gratitude for God's providence "with united hearts." By their actions they extended a revered regional custom into a national tradition.

Precisely two centuries have now passed since that time. We have tamed a continent, established institutions dedicated to protecting our liberties, and secured a place of leadership among nations. But we have never lost sight of the principles upon which our Nation was founded. For that reason we can look to the future with hope and confidence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, in accord with Section 6103 of Title 5 of the United States Code, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 24, 1977, as Thanksgiving Day. I ask all Americans to gather on that day with their families and neighbors in their homes and in their houses of worship to give thanks for the blessings Almighty God has bestowed upon us.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER