



PROCLAMATION

CNMI ORAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH APRIL 2017

WHEREAS, April 2017 is National Oral Cancer Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, one of the leading causes of Oral Cancer in the CNMI is chewing betel nut with tobacco and other additives; and

WHEREAS, each year in the U.S. alone, approximately 42,000 individuals are newly diagnosed with Oral Cancer. Unfortunately at this time, the majority are found as late stage cancers, which accounts for the very high death rate; and

WHEREAS, the *good news* is that a dentist or doctor can see or feel precancerous tissues changes or an early cancer, finding it at the most curable stages; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Cancer Association (CCA) in partnership with the Seventh Day Adventist Clinic, the Commonwealth Health Care Corporation-Division of Public Health Service, CHCC Dental Clinic, Dental Care Clinic, New Wave Clinic, Smile Marianas Clinic, Paradise Dental and ToothWorks Clinic are offering free oral cancer screening for all ages; and,

WHEREAS, the early detection of oral cancer and prevention of the disease through regular oral cancer screenings and increased awareness through early detection practices can save lives; and

WHEREAS, all of the dental clinics in the CNMI are working together to save lives by providing free oral cancer screening, we encourage everyone in the CNMI to take advantage of the free screening and to educate yourself and your loved ones about oral cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, VICTOR B. HOCOG, Acting Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth, do hereby proclaim the month of **April** and every day forward as **CNMI Oral Cancer Awareness Month**.

I commend and urge this observance to all of our citizens, so that together we can fight oral cancer and save lives every day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on this
3rd day of April, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victor B. Hocog", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the text "VICTOR B. HOCO" and "Acting Governor" is printed in black capital letters.

VICTOR B. HOCO
Acting Governor