

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services estimates that 850,000 unpaid caregivers in Washington state at the heart of our long-term care system dedicate themselves to the physical, emotional, and practical needs of individuals aged 18 or older; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Human Services Department's Aging and Disability Services (ADS) division serves as a beacon of hope for many family caregivers, offering resources and guidance, coordinating Community Living Connections network providers, and directly supporting caregivers so they can help their loved ones and, simultaneously, maintain their own quality of life; and

WHEREAS, ADS' participation in the Washington State Medicaid Transformation demonstration project echoes our commitment to enhancing services for older individuals and their caregivers, ensuring equitable access to necessary assistance, regardless of income or assets; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle proudly collaborates with Momentia Seattle, the Alzheimer's Association, UW Medicine/Brain Health & Wellness Center, the Washington State Dementia Action Collaborative, and other organizations, and fosters innovative programs for caregivers and their loved ones who live with memory loss through Seattle Parks and Recreation's Lifelong Recreation, Dementia-Friendly Recreation, and Sound Steps initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the role of family caregivers encompasses myriad responsibilities such as meal preparations, medical appointments, household tasks, and emotional sustenance, often carried out with unconditional dedication and unwavering love; and

WHEREAS, the journey of caregiving, while rewarding, also entails challenges—spanning from moments of profound connection to periods of stress, frustration, anxiety, and exhaustion—that highlight the importance of recognizing and nurturing caregivers' mental and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, unpaid caregivers frequently encounter financial strains due to lost wages and the complexities of finding dependable respite care and essential support services, emphasizing the necessity of fostering a robust caregiving support ecosystem; and

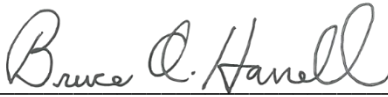
WHEREAS, the contributions of unpaid family caregivers, who steadfastly support their loved ones, enabling them to age at home with dignity and compassion, are invaluable to our community; and

WHEREAS, November is National Family Caregiver Support Month, a nationwide tribute that is supported by the Mayor's Council on African American Elders, Age Friendly Seattle, and community partners who co-sponsor *Legacy of Love*, an annual African American Caregiver Forum focused on dementia care and support;

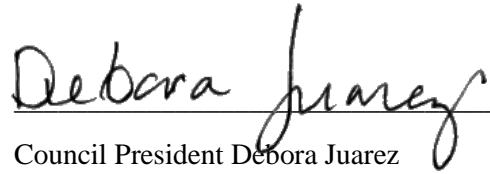
*THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PROCLAIM
NOVEMBER TO BE*

Family Caregiver Support Month in Seattle

We commend family caregivers for their resilience; we celebrate their boundless dedication; we urge others to provide respite care to caregivers; we amplify our commitment to fostering a nurturing environment; and we encourage everyone in our communities to uplift the lives of their beloved elders, enhancing inclusion and compassion throughout Seattle.



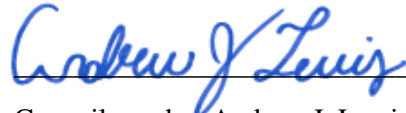
Mayor Bruce Harrell



Council President Debora Juarez



Councilmember Lisa Herbold



Councilmember Andrew J. Lewis



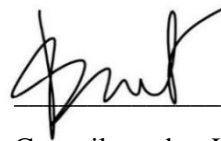
Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda



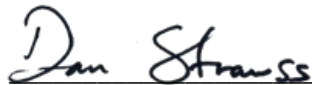
Councilmember Sara Nelson



Councilmember Alex Pedersen



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Dan Strauss

