

**Kenai Peninsula Borough  
Alaska  
Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia, is a progressive and degenerative brain disorder that causes memory loss and affects self-care, decision-making, and behavior; and

WHEREAS, there are 8,400 Alaskans now living with Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 25,000 unpaid caregivers providing 39 million hours of support to their loved ones with Alzheimer's disease each year, valued at \$796 million annually; and

WHEREAS, dementia is a leading cause of death in Alaska and the only leading cause of death in the country with no known treatments to prevent, cure, or even delay the onset or slow the progression of the disease; and

WHEREAS, with early detection and diagnosis, individuals and families can gain access to medications and support services which promote quality of life; fully participate in planning for the future; and enroll in critical research trials; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska recognizes the effort of the Alzheimer's Association to promote awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and provide care and support to unpaid caregivers, thereby improving the quality of life for individuals living with dementia; and

WHEREAS, every November, National Family Caregivers Month (NFCM) is a time to recognize and honor family caregivers across the country, offering an opportunity to raise awareness of caregiving issues, educate communities, and increase support for caregivers; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the stories, strengths, and efforts of the individuals, families, friends and caregivers impacted by dementia, as well as the tireless work of the researchers who are seeking a cause and cure:

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Peter Micciche, do hereby proclaim November 2024 as

*National Family Caregiver Month*

And we further urge all residents to support caregivers in our community by volunteering with organizations like the Alzheimer's Association. Time and compassion can lighten the load for those providing care to loved ones, and every effort makes a meaningful difference. Together, we can ensure that caregivers and those they care for receive the care, dignity, and respect they deserve.

  
Peter A. Micciche  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor