

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 8,500 Alaskans now living with Alzheimer's disease and current projections indicate this rate will increase to 12,000 individuals by 2025; and

WHEREAS, dementia is a leading cause of death in Alaska and is 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 Kenai Peninsula Borough recognizes the efforts of the Alzheimer's Association to promote awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and provide care and support to all those affected, thereby improving the quality of life for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, every November, Family Caregiver Month is a time to honor family caregivers across Alaska and the country. It offers 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 researches who are seeking a cause and cure;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mike Navarre, Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as:

Family Caregiver Month

Mike Navarre

Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor