

The State of Washington



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 110,000 Washingtonians now living with Alzheimer's disease and current projections indicate that this rate will increase to 140,000 individuals by 2025, and there are currently 341,000 unpaid caregivers providing 389 million hours of support to their loved ones with Alzheimer's disease each year, valued at \$4.9 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, dementia is the third leading cause of death in Washington State 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 that promote quality of life, fully participate in planning for the future, and enroll in critical research trials; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias outlines the action steps that are being implemented by the Dementia Action Collaborative to promote brain health; address legal, financial and advance care planning; improve the quality of life for those living with dementia; provide evidence-based health care; ease the strain on family caregivers; and reduce associated costs in the future; and

WHEREAS, the state of Washington recognizes the efforts of the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer Society of Washington 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 Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim June 2018 as

Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 5th day of June, 2018

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

