



Proclamation

WHEREAS, we honor and support the millions of brave Americans who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other dementia related diseases along with the selfless family members and caregivers who stand by their sides throughout the long course of this heartbreaking disease; and

WHEREAS, every 65 seconds an individual develops Alzheimer's disease; more than 5.8 million Americans now have Alzheimer's disease or other related dementias. This number is projected to reach over 15 million by 2050; it is the most expensive disease in America costing the nation \$290 billion this year; and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness and understanding of dementia by providing resources to citizens and first responders to better understand the challenges and struggles those individuals living with dementia face daily; and

WHEREAS, providing education and support to caregivers and family members about their loved ones' behavioral changes and the disease progression to help them navigate healthcare resources; and

WHEREAS, to create an inclusive community that enables people living with dementia their caregivers and family members to participate in social and cultural events together. A community where they enjoy freedom, dignity, equality, accessibility, and quality of life. It is one where they are empowered to live independently, free from stigma, discrimination, exploitation, violence, or abuse.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby proclaim Ocala as a

DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY CITY

I encourage all citizens to join with me to promote education by making our community more inclusive for those living with dementia.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 20th day of June 2023.



Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala