

# PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver  
Proclamation No. 19-0346

## Recognizing April 2019 as Parkinson's Awareness Month

**WHEREAS**, Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive, neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States;

**WHEREAS**, there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, but it is estimated to affect 1,000,000 people in the United States with one person being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease every 9 minutes. The prevalence will more than double by 2030;

**WHEREAS**, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that the combined direct and indirect economic cost of Parkinson's, including treatment, social security payments and lost income, is estimated to be nearly \$25 billion per year in the United States, including indirect costs to patients and family members of \$6.3 billion;

**WHEREAS**, research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown;

**WHEREAS**, there is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's disease, and there is no cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of the disease;

**WHEREAS**, the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders (such as depression and anxiety); constipation; skin problems; and sleep difficulties;

**WHEREAS**, volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families;

**WHEREAS**, research, education, and community support services are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today;

### **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** That the Council of the City and County of Denver hereby proclaims April as Parkinson's Awareness Month in Denver.

**Section 2.** That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted Parkinson Association of the Rockies and Jodi Brown, Executive Director of Parkinson Association of the Rockies.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 8, 2019

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PRESIDENT