

STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS:

Family caregivers are the foundation of Minnesota's long-term care system and a primary

source of support for older adults and others with chronic conditions or disabilities

living in Minnesota communities; and

WHEREAS:

Spouses, relatives, partners, and friends provide a broad range of assistance that is

critical to supporting independence and self-sufficiency, while delaying or preventing

placement in institutional settings; and

WHEREAS:

Minnesota's 679,000 family caregivers provide more than 649 million hours of unpaid care per year, a tremendous resource to our state that is valued at \$8.2 billion dollars,

exceeding Minnesota's total federal and state expenditures on Medicaid; and

WHEREAS:

2011 is the 10th anniversary of the National Family Caregiver Support Program, a time to celebrate the important contributions of family caregivers and to recognize the impact of services and support, including respite care, caregiver training and education, and caregiver coaching and consultation; and

WHEREAS:

Every day, family caregivers demonstrate extraordinary love, dedication, and courage in helping family and friends. This ranges from assistance with personal care, managing medications, and serving as an advocate during medical appointments or hospitalizations, to household chores, companionship, and emotional support; and

WHEREAS:

The State of Minnesota acknowledges the challenges faced by caregivers and highlights the resources available to help them in performing their important work, such as the Senior LinkAge Line and home and community-based services, including respite care, caregiver training and education, caregiver consulting, memory care programs, and related supports.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim November, 2011 as:

FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH

in the State of Minnesota, as a time to honor, recognize, and support the many family caregivers in Minnesota communities.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 19th day of October.

SECRETARY OF STATE