

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Julie Seeman
INITIATED BY



Joyce Lubben
DRAFTED BY

Education, Veterans & Aging
Services Committee
SUBMITTED BY

September 3, 2013
DATE DRAFTED

**Recognizing National Family Caregivers Month
November 2013**

1 **WHEREAS**, November 2013 has been designated as “**NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS’**
2 **MONTH**” we join with the nation in recognizing and celebrating the devotion, commitment, and hard
3 work of all family caregivers in Rock County. Family caregivers are present in all Rock County rural
4 and urban areas and represent every ethnic, social and economic backgrounds; and,
5

6 **WHEREAS**, according to the Institute for Health and Aging family caregivers are identified as the
7 immediate family; relatives by blood, marriage, or adoption; partners; or close friends who directly
8 provide care, manage the care of, and/or assume financial support of people who need medical and
9 non-medical assistance, emotional support, and advocacy because they are ill, disabled, or aged and
10 frail; and,
11

12 **WHEREAS**, “National Family Caregivers Month” is a time to reflect on the compassion and
13 dedication that family caregivers embody every day; frequently compromising their own routines,
14 goals, emotions and personal preferred activities; we express our appreciation and admiration for their
15 difficult work. Let us also extend our own offer of support to them and their loved ones; and,
16

17 **WHEREAS**, the Council on Aging and the Rock County Caregiver Resource Network’s mission is to
18 provide awareness, education, support, advocacy and resources to facilitate partnerships for caregivers.
19 These organizations and agencies continue to develop and implement strategies to provide caregiver
20 education and training, reduce barriers and improve linkages to resources and services through
21 collaboration for all family caregivers and community members in Rock County; and,
22

23 **WHEREAS**, quoting Rosalynn Carter, “there are four kinds of people in the world: those who have been
24 caregivers, those who are currently caregivers, those who will be caregivers and those who will need
25 caregiving.” Caregiving touches everyone in some way; and,
26

27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled
28 this 10th day of October, 2013 honors the caregivers living and working in Rock County
29 during the month of November 2013.

13-10A-428

Respectfully submitted,

Education, Veterans & Aging Services Committee

Absent
Terry Thomas, Chair

Wayne Gustina
Wayne Gustina, Vice Chair

Steve Howland
Steve Howland

Absent
Edwin Nash

Russ Podzilna
Rick Richard Russ Podzilna

Executive Summary
Recognizing National Family Caregivers Month, 2013

Many people don't think of themselves as caregivers. Across America, Wisconsin and Rock County, daughters and sons balance the work of caring for aging parents with the demands of their careers and raising their own children. Spouses and partners become caregivers to loved ones with issues of aging, disability or mental illness even as they navigate their own health challenges. Mothers and fathers resume care for children returning home as wounded warriors. Friends and relatives form networks to support loved ones with disabilities. All of them give selflessly to bring comfort and stability to those they love.

Many family caregivers go unnoticed and unrecognized for their work in caring for a loved one, whether it is a parent, spouse, child or neighbor. In Wisconsin, it is estimated there are 549,279 caregivers who give 588 million hours of service. In the market place, the value of these services provided for "free" is estimated to be \$5,836 million.

Nationally, more than 65 million people, 29% of the U.S. population, provide care for a chronically ill, disabled or aged family member or friend during any given year and spend an average of 20 hours per week providing care for their loved one.

The Rock County Council on Aging's National Family Caregiver Support Program and the Rock County Caregiver Alliance's mission is *"Dedicated to providing awareness, education, support, advocacy and resources to facilitate community partnerships for caregivers."*

The month of November 2013 has been designated as National Family Caregivers Month to honor the many individuals who give of themselves as caregivers.