

State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New Yorkers are known for their compassion and concern for others, well-exemplified by the 2.8 million unpaid informal caregivers in our State who provide direct care and support to persons of all ages and disabilities; during the course of a year, an estimated 4.1 million New Yorkers assume the role of caregiver at some point – a remarkable testament to the selflessness of the people of this State; and

Whereas, more than 80 percent of all long-term services and supports are provided by family members, friends, and neighbors, with the majority of caregivers in a primary role of giving all or nearly all of the care to the care receiver, and these individuals spend an average of 5.7 years tending to the needs of others; and

Whereas, unpaid caregivers make many sacrifices to improve the lives of their loved ones through their dedication, compassion, and sense of humanity; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has been especially difficult and demanding for our State and its people – yet nowhere is unconditional generosity more visible than among New Yorkers – including family caregivers who inspire us with their strength and love during the stress of the current global health crisis; and

Whereas, caregivers meet the challenges of balancing their role as caregivers with the responsibilities they have to their immediate families and their jobs and, while there are demands in caring for others, they remain selfless in sharing themselves and their personal time with those in their charge; and

Whereas, caregivers are an integral part of health and long-term services and supports in New York State and, without them, thousands of vulnerable individuals would be forced to leave their homes and communities of choice and be placed in institutional settings; and

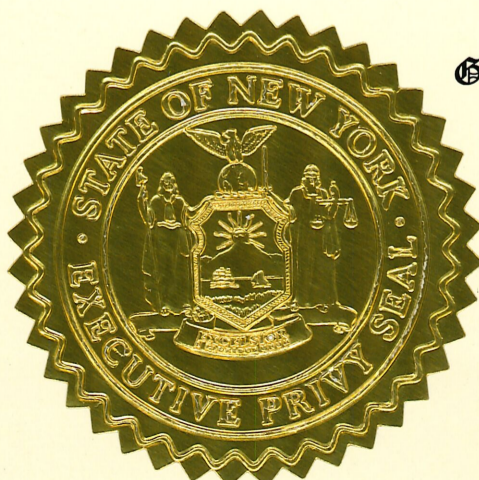
Whereas, recognizing the value of informal caregivers, New York State has helped individuals live independently in their communities of choice; supported family members who care for the nearly 380,000 New Yorkers living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; enacted the most comprehensive Paid Family Leave program in the nation; created the NY Connects program to provide objective information on long-term services and supports to maximize independence; and continues to operate the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program to provide information and assist nursing home residents and their families with quality of care issues; and

Whereas, all New Yorkers take this opportunity to recognize the meaningful contributions of informal caregivers – children, parents, spouses, partners, grandparents, extended family, and friends – knowing that their commitment, generosity, and dedication makes a profound difference in the lives of others and reflects the best of the Empire State;

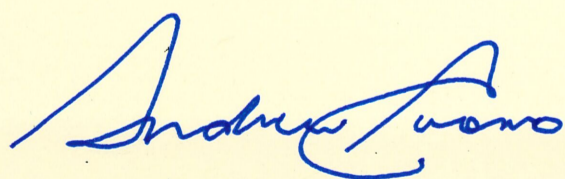
Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim November 2020 as


CAREGIVER RECOGNITION MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this thirtieth day
of October in the year two thousand twenty.


Governor


Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa