## RESOLUTION NO. 44 - 24

## A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 2024 AS ALZHEIMER'S BRAIN AND AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the seventh-leading cause of death, affecting nearly 91,000 Coloradans among 7 million Americans and more than 55 million people around the world; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative brain disorder that tragically robs individuals of their memories and leads to escalating mental and physical impairments, for which there is currently no prevention or cure; and

WHEREAS, this disease preys heavily on specific segments of our community, with Black Americans twice as likely as whites to develop the disease, Hispanics 50% more likely than whites, and women account for two-thirds of all people living with Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS, lack of awareness of Alzheimer's disease has resulted in only half of those affected ever being diagnosed, effectively denying countless people access to the care and support services provided by the Alzheimer's Association, always at no charge; and

WHEREAS, the impact of Alzheimer's extends to loved ones of those with the disease, including 177,000 Colorado family members and friends who provided an estimated 307 million hours of unpaid care in 2023 at a value of over \$7.2 billion; and

WHEREAS, the mental health of those caregivers is severely tested, with 60% reporting emotional stress as high or very high, and one-third of caregivers having thoughts of suicide; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs recognizes the efforts of the Alzheimer's Association to raise funds and promote awareness to fight Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, thereby improving the quality of human life for those living with the disease and their care partners and bringing us closer to finding a cure.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. City Council recognizes June 2024 as Alzheimer's Brain and Awareness Month.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 28th day of May, 2024.

Randy Helms, Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk