



# PROCLAMATION

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

**WHEREAS,** there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, but it is estimated to affect nearly 1 million people in the United States, and that number is expected to more than double by 2040; and

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

**WHEREAS,** there are millions of Americans who are caregivers, family members and friends greatly impacted by Parkinson's disease; and

**WHEREAS,** it is estimated that the annual economic burden of Parkinson's disease is over \$26.4 billion per year, and indirect costs to patients and family members total \$6.3 billion; and

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

**WHEREAS,** there currently is no objective test, or biomarker, to diagnose Parkinson's disease; and

**WHEREAS,** there is no known cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of the disease, and available treatments are limited in their ability to address patients' medical needs and remain effective over time; and

**WHEREAS,** the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; gait and balance difficulty; speech and swallowing disturbances; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders; and a variety of other non-motor symptoms; and

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

**WHEREAS,** increased 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.

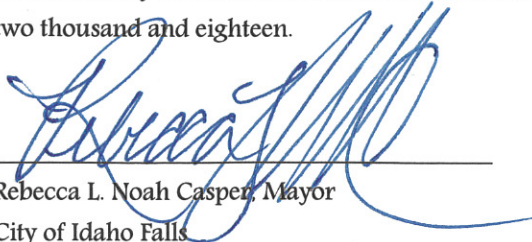
**THEREFORE, I, REBECCA CASPER, MAYOR** of the City of Idaho Falls, do hereby proclaim the month of April as

## Parkinson's Awareness Month

in Idaho Falls and encourage the funding and support of Parkinson's research in the hope of improving the lives of families and individuals living with the disease.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Idaho Falls to be affixed on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, two thousand and eighteen.

  
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Rebecca L. Noah Casper, Mayor  
City of Idaho Falls