



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Central Texas region hosts the second fastest growing population of adults 65 and older and the fastest growing population of adults 55 to 64; and

WHEREAS, The Aging Services Council of Central Texas reports that by 2040 more than a half-million seniors, or 517,772, will live in Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson counties and comprise nearly 18 percent of the Central Texas population; and

WHEREAS, caregiving is a 24-hour, 7-days a week job; and

WHEREAS, the average caregiver is a working mother of school-age children who has to balance the needs of her family with the needs of, most likely, an elderly or ill parent, who needs medication management and numerous doctor visits, amongst other issues, the level of stress under which they live is unhealthy; and

WHEREAS, six out of 10 caregivers work full- or part-time in addition to juggling their caregiving responsibilities at home; and

WHEREAS, most caregivers say they have to cut back on working hours, take a leave of absence, or quit their job entirely, which can lead to no benefits, no retirement, and reduced income; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of a multi-generational home require that the caregiver lose much work time and may lose their jobs due to required absences; and

WHEREAS, caregivers seemingly never have a life of their own, but even with these stressors, they decide to become a caregiver as a gift of love and duty to family.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court proclaim November 2019 as Family Caregivers Month to honor all of our residents who are wearing invisible superhero capes by taking care of an elderly or ill family member or friend while also working hard at their own jobs and keeping their families together. We hope that you allow yourself a little self-care.

Signed on this date: _____

Bill Gravell, County Judge

Terry Cook, Commissioner Precinct 1

Valerie Covey, Commissioner Precinct 3

Cynthia Long, Commissioner Precinct 2

Russ Boles, Commissioner Precinct 4