

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-159

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3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Ms. Walters, Council as a Whole

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5 DATE May 13, 2024 COMMITTEE Human Services

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7 **A Resolution declaring the month of June 2024 as Alzheimer’s and Brain Awareness Month**  
8 **in Summit County, and to raise awareness about Alzheimer’s disease and other brain**  
9 **diseases and dementias, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

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11 WHEREAS, the National Institute on Aging defines dementia as the loss the cognitive  
12 functions such as thinking, remembering, and reasoning to such an extent that it interferes with a  
13 person’s daily life and activities; and

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15 WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s disease is a progressive brain disease that leads to memory loss  
16 and cognitive decline and is the most common type of dementia; and

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18 WHEREAS, according to a report by the Alzheimer’s Association, nearly 7 million people  
19 in the United States are living with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias, with that number  
20 expected to increase dramatically in the coming decades; and

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22 WHEREAS, women, Latino, and Black Americans are at a significantly higher risk for  
23 Alzheimer’s disease and dementia; and

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25 WHEREAS, symptoms of dementia include memory loss, confusion, difficulty speaking,  
26 writing, or reading, getting lost in a familiar place, acting impulsively, taking longer to complete  
27 simple tasks, loss of balance, and more; and

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29 WHEREAS, people living through all levels of severity of Alzheimer’s disease and  
30 dementia are worthy of compassion, respect, and dignity, and deserve the support of their family,  
31 friends, and community; and

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33 WHEREAS, while Alzheimer’s disease and dementias are not curable, there are strategies  
34 to prevent and treat dementias that can reduce future diagnoses and improve the prognoses of  
35 people living with these conditions; and

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37 WHEREAS, in 2023, Summit County was designated a Dementia-Friendly Community  
38 and has embarked on a mission to better serve residents with dementia and to meet the needs of an  
39 increasing number of people living with brain diseases and dementia; and

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41 WHEREAS, an array of partners including the Akron-Summit County Public Library  
42 (ASCPL), the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board, Summit County Public Health,  
43 Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities, ASIA, and more continue  
44 to meet and lead this coalition; and

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46 WHEREAS, the work of Dementia Friendly Summit County and its partners includes  
47 Dementia Friends trainings, of which the coalition has presented 29, serving 599 participants, and  
48 ASCPL’s Dementia Inclusive Library and Memory Café Series; and

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50 WHEREAS, Dementia Friends training is available to local institutions, businesses, and  
51 groups who want to learn how to better advocate for and support their neighbors and loved ones  
52 with dementia; and

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4 WHEREAS, Dementia Friendly Summit County will continue its work going forward to  
5 improve our community for residents with dementia; and

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7 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month is a time to uplifts residents with  
8 dementia and the work to support them, recognizing how our loved ones with dementia fill our  
9 lives with joy, wit, humor, and love; and

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11 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after receiving all pertinent information,  
12 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit that June 2024 be declared  
13 Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month in Summit County, and encouraging the residents of  
14 Summit County to join in this acknowledgement;

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16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State  
17 of Ohio, that:

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19 SECTION 1

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21 The month of June 2024 is hereby declared Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month in  
22 Summit County, and the residents and employees of Summit County are encouraged to join in this  
23 acknowledgement.

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25 SECTION 2

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27 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and  
28 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of  
29 immediately declaring June 2024 as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month in Summit County.

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31 SECTION 3

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33 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight (8) members, it shall take  
34 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise it shall take effect  
35 and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

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37 SECTION 4

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39 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating  
40 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all  
41 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were  
42 in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22  
43 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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5 INTRODUCED May 13, 2024

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8 ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_

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12 CLERK OF COUNCIL

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

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15 APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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19 EXECUTIVE

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22 ENACTED EFFECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_