



# *Proclamation*

*Mayor Shaundel*

*City of La Crosse*

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the 580,000 family caregivers across our state who are helping their older parents, spouses and other loved ones live independently in their homes and in their communities – where they want to be – instead of being forced into costly nursing homes; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin's family caregivers are among 63 million Americans recognized this November during National Family Caregivers Month; and

**WHEREAS**, family caregivers in Wisconsin hold up a broken long-term care system, providing 540 million hours of care every year, adding up to \$9.2 billion in unpaid labor annually. This extraordinary contribution not only sustains families but also saves our state's taxpayers billions; and

**WHEREAS**, family caregivers are facing great challenges: financially, emotionally, and physically. They do it all, from bathing and meal prep to managing medications, arranging transportation, and handling medical/nursing tasks with little or no training; and

**WHEREAS**, about 80% of family caregivers pay out of their own pockets to help meet their loved ones' needs, averaging over \$7,200 each year. Too often, family caregivers stop saving, take on more debt, use up personal short-term savings, leave bills unpaid or pay them late, and borrow money from family and friends to deal with the financial challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous family caregivers are also juggling jobs and many must reduce work hours or leave the workforce entirely due to caregiving responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS**, family caregivers deserve our gratitude, but they also need common sense solutions that save them money, time, and provide support; and

**WHEREAS**, chances are if you are not a family caregiver right now, you have been, you may be at some point, or you know someone who is, or you will someday need a family caregiver yourself to help you live independently at home; and



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WHEREAS, family caregivers need support, including financial relief. I encourage all La Crosse residents to reach out to the family caregivers in their lives, thank them for the incredibly important work they do, and support them if you can.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SHAUNDEL WASHINGTON-SPIVEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LA CROSSE, do hereby proclaim November, 2025 as

## **“National Family Caregivers Month”**

Dated on this 1st day of November in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Five.

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Mayor Shaundel

