

## 2017 National Assisted Living Week® | "Family is Forever"

### Sample Proclamation for Local Officials

**Tip:** Work with your city, county or state officials to request this proclamation. If they accept, invite the government official to officially sign the proclamation at an event at your assisted living community, and invite your residents and staff, as well as members of the media.

**WHEREAS**, residents of assisted living communities are active members of the larger community, offering their knowledge, life experiences and involvement; their past contributions continue to be a vital part of **[NAME OF CITY'S or STATE'S]** rich history; and their ongoing participation deepens our **[CITY'S OR STATE'S]** identity;

**WHEREAS**, assisted living is a critical long term care service for the elderly and individuals with disabilities that fosters choice, dignity, and independence; assisted living communities are committed to excellence, innovation and the advancement of person-centered care;

**WHEREAS**, in 1995, the National Center for Assisted Living established National Assisted Living Week® to honor the contributions of assisted living communities in providing long term care to America's seniors and individuals with disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, this year's theme of National Assisted Living Week® is "Family is Forever," which recognizes the unique bonds assisted living residents and staff members form; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2017 theme is inspired by a quote from the famed poet Maya Angelou: "Family isn't always blood, it's the people in your life who want you in theirs: the ones who accept you for who you are, the ones who would do anything to see you smile and who love you no matter what";

**WHEREAS**, it takes a special person to work in assisted living, as caregivers spend countless hours providing high quality care to residents; therefore, staff and residents often come to think of each other as family;

**WHEREAS**, during this special week, assisted living communities across the country are encouraged to organize activities and events which celebrate the deep connections between the dedicated staff members and residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, [MAYOR/GOVERNOR/ELECTED OFFICIAL'S NAME], do hereby proclaim the week of September 10-16, 2017, as Assisted Living Week in the [CITY OF NAME or STATE OF NAME]. I urge all citizens to volunteer in an assisted living community, to visit friends and loved ones who reside at these communities, and to learn more about how assisted living services benefit [THE LARGER COMMUNITY/STATE].