

# 2019 National Assisted Living Week® | "A Spark of Creativity"

## 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 formally 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 option for older adults 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 "A Spark of Creativity," which hopes to inspire assisted living residents to explore their creative side whether through the arts or beyond;

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Art Therapy Association, art therapy can offer many benefits to older adults and individuals with disabilities, including improving cognitive and sensory-motor functions, fostering self-

esteem and self-awareness, cultivating emotional resilience, enhancing social skills, and reducing and resolving conflicts and distress;

**WHEREAS**, "A Spark of Creativity" is also meant to encourage assisted living staff to think creatively and continue to explore new, innovative ways to deliver high-quality, person-centered care;

**WHEREAS**, during this special week, assisted living communities across the country are encouraged to organize activities and events which celebrate the individuality of residents, the dedication of staff, and the deep connections formed in these settings;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, [MAYOR/GOVERNOR/ELECTED OFFICIAL'S NAME], do hereby proclaim the week of September 8-14, 2019, 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].