The State of Maryland

Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

MARYLAND FAMILY CAREGIVER DAY
NOVEMBER 19, 2026

WHEREAS, *Caregiving spans generations and populations in Maryland, representing the full range of family caregivers, including spouses, partners, siblings, friends, neighbors, kin, cousins, nieces, nephews, grandparents, parents, and godparents; and*

WHEREAS, *Maryland is home to approximately 1.15 million family caregivers, representing one in four adults; these caregivers are the backbone of the care system, providing an estimated 1 billion hours of unpaid care each year–valued at $24 billion annually; and*

WHEREAS, *There is a growing population of older adults and individuals living with disabilities whose care relies heavily on family and kin networks; and*

WHEREAS, *Many caregivers face physical, emotional, and financial challenges that require greater awareness, resources, and respite support; and*

WHEREAS, *Twenty-eight percent of caregivers report living with a disability and eleven percent report difficulty with concentration or memory; and*

WHEREAS, *During National Family Caregivers Month, the State of Maryland reaffirms its commitment to building inclusive communities where every caregiver is recognized, supported, and empowered to thrive; and*

WHEREAS, *Maryland is dedicated to supporting family caregivers through innovative policies guided by Longevity Ready Maryland, the state's first multisector plan for aging; and*

WHEREAS, *Maryland's progress in advancing support for family caregivers has been demonstrated through collaborative efforts made by the Maryland Commission on Caregiving and programs like the Respite Care Ambassador Program and the Johns Hopkins Memory Care Family Checklist.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim NOVEMBER 19, 2026, as MARYLAND FAMILY CAREGIVER DAY, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.

Given *Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, this* ***19th*** *day of* ***November*** *Two Thousand* ***and twenty-six***

Governor

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State