

To Whom It May Concern:

In 2013, community members came forward to the City of Roseville requesting that the city assist in efforts to increase awareness of Alzheimer's and dementia in our local community. While there are many national and state-wide organizations dedicated to providing services for persons and families dealing with Alzheimer's and dementia, there are still gaps in the system, especially at the local level.

As a result of this request, a group of concerned citizens, service providers, school district and city staff began meeting as the Roseville Alzheimer's and Dementia Community Action Team (Roseville A/D for short) to discuss how to improve conditions for Roseville individuals and families with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

One of the first outcomes of our efforts was to create a webpage on the City of Roseville website that listed resources and information about dementia and Alzheimer's. The page continues to be updated monthly by city staff and provides valuable information to individuals, family members and caregivers about Alzheimer's and dementia related diseases. You can access the page at http://cityofroseville.com/2721/Alzheimers-Dementia

In the ensuing years, the Roseville A/D group conducted a community survey with caregivers, received a grant to participate in the ACT on Alzheimer's program, and have done nearly two dozen community forums and presentations on topics related to Alzheimer's and dementia.

Community Action Team

All of these efforts by Roseville A/D have been fully supported by the Roseville City Council and City leadership team. Recently, over 40 staff members went through Purple Angel training to better understand and interact persons that have Alzheimer's and dementia. This training is critical especially for our front line staff who deal with residents, customers, and visitors every day. Our Police and Fire Departments continue with its on-going efforts to assist and protect persons with Alzheimer's and Dementia. As an organization, the City of Roseville is informed and committed to assist individuals and families impacted by Alzheimer's and dementia.

With the Roseville A/D collaboration, the City of Roseville has been able to significantly increase community awareness about Alzheimer's and dementia for a very minor cost. Beyond spending time attending meetings, updating the Roseville A/D page, providing space for meetings, allowing a kiosk for information, and making copies for events, the City has spent very little actual dollars while reaping a tremendous benefit with a more informed community. Most importantly, individuals and families suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia are now connected to the resources that they need. All of that would not have happened without the

community collaboration. Because of these efforts, Roseville now has a comprehensive response and role in advocating and protecting our residents who have Alzheimer's and dementia. In fact, Roseville's involvement has brought other local, county, and state agencies to the table that is leading to better coordination and support for the affected populations.

I would urge other cities to take a look at what they can do to assist residents and families struggling with Alzheimer's and dementia. Roseville's experience is one example of how to approach the matter, but <u>any</u> effort to raise awareness and connect people to Alzheimer and dementia resources will be a great benefit to your residents and community.

Patrick J. Trudgeon

Para / Truger

City Manager

City of Roseville, Minnesota