



Proclamation Recognizing September 2026 as World Alzheimer's Month

- WHEREAS,** September 2026 marks the 15th anniversary of World Alzheimer's Month, an international campaign dedicated to raising awareness of dementia and World Alzheimer's Day, observed annually on September 21, and focuses global attention on the growing impact of dementia and the importance of creating communities where people living with dementia can remain active, respected, valued, understood, and included; and
- WHEREAS,** dementia is a growing public health challenge affecting millions of people worldwide and, of the 21.4 percent of Albemarle County's population who are age 65 or older, approximately 11.4 percent are living with Alzheimer's dementia; and
- WHEREAS,** research demonstrates that timely diagnosis and supportive community environments improve quality of life for people living with dementia, strengthen support for caregivers who provide essential support to people living with dementia and often experience significant hardship, and help individuals and their caregivers access available services and resources sooner; and
- WHEREAS,** Albemarle County is committed to fostering an inclusive community that supports residents of every age, and Dementia Friendly Communities encourages local governments, businesses, healthcare providers, first responders, faith communities, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, and residents to make practical changes that enable people living with dementia to live full and engaged lives.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED,** that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby endorse Albemarle County as a Dementia Friendly Community and encourage collaboration among County government, community organizations, Dementia Friendly Central Virginia, healthcare providers, businesses, educational institutions, faith communities, and residents to advance dementia awareness, education, and inclusion.
- BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED,** that the Board recognizes **September 2026 as World Alzheimer's Month** and encourages all residents to observe **World Alzheimer's Day on September 21, 2026**, by learning more about dementia, supporting caregivers, reducing stigma, promoting early recognition and diagnosis, and helping build a community where every resident can live with dignity, independence, and belonging.

Signed this 16th day of September 2026.

Ned L. Gallaway, Chair
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors