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A resolution by the County Executive and Supervisors Taylor (9) and Dimitrijevic supporting the retention and expansion of Wisconsin's Aging and Disability Resource Centers' (ADRC) Dementia Care Specialist program and requesting the State to provide funding for Dementia Care Specialist programming through ADRC base allocations in the next proposed 2017-2019 biennial State budget, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in Wisconsin, it is estimated that 115,000 individuals, age 65 and older, are living with some form of clinically diagnosable dementia, and that population is expect to increase to 240,000 by 2040; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, within Milwaukee County (the County), the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC's) diagnosed 2,696 individuals with Alzheimer's and other dementia types of illness, with the care and treatment of persons with dementia now being described as a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, 90 percent of people with dementia live in their home, and 22 percent live alone; and

WHEREAS, a diagnosis of dementia doesn't mean a person has to lose their dignity or their ability to remain in their home, and be part of the community; and

WHEREAS, the County has made a significant commitment to persons with dementia through the critical work of the ADRC's, Dementia Care Specialists (DCS), and the Alzheimer's Action Network, which includes members such as the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute, Alzheimer's Association, and Interfaith Older Adult Programs; and

WHEREAS, the DCS and Alzheimer's Action Network strive to improve the quality of life for all those affected, including people living with memory loss and their caregivers, while helping them to remain in the community where they want to live, and cost-savings to taxpayers can be realized; and

WHEREAS, each day that an individual remains in the community, and outside of expensive publicly-funded institutional care facilities, saves taxpayers an estimated \$161 per day or \$58,925 annually per person, making the DCS program a wise and sound investment of public dollars; and

WHEREAS, the County's DCS program provided in-home consultations to 614 caregivers and families in 2016, and have also established six Memory Cafes; and

45 WHEREAS, the DCS program has secured a commitment from the City of
46 Milwaukee Public Libraries to establish 15 Memory Connection Centers as an additional
47 resource for local individuals and families; and
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49 WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed budget does not include funding for the
50 DCS positions in 2017-2019, thereby removing this valuable expertise and coalition
51 support from the community; and
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53 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health and Human Needs at its meeting May 17,
54 2017, recommended adoption of File 17-388 (vote 4-0); now, therefore,
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56 BE IT RESOLVED, the County Executive and the Milwaukee County Board of
57 Supervisors respectfully request that these critical programs and services be
58 consistently available in Milwaukee County and throughout the State of Wisconsin by
59 having the State add Dementia Care Specialists funding to Aging and Disability
60 Resource Centers' base allocations in the next proposed 2017-2019 biennial State
61 budget.
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