

## City of Ann Arbor

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Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month 2011

## **PROCLAMATION**

Parkinson's Awareness Month April 2011

WHEREAS, Parkinson's Disease is the second most common progressive neurodegenerative disease in the

United States, second only to Alzheimer's; and

WHEREAS, Even though there is inadequate comprehensive data on the incidence and prevalence of

Parkinson's disease, as of 2011, it is estimated that the disease affects over 1,000,000 people in

the United States; and

WHEREAS, Although research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and

environmental factors, the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and

WHEREAS, there is no objective test for Parkinson's disease and the rate of misdiagnosis can be high; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and include tremor, slowness,

difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, speaking, rigidity, cognitive problems, dementia, mood disorders, such as depression and anxiety, constipation, skin problems, and sleep

disruption; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure, therapy, or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer

side effects and , ultimately, an effective treatment or cure for Parkinson's disease.

of the City of Ann Arbor, do hereby proclaim April, 2011, as Parkinson's Arbor. I encourage all citizens to recognize the need for more research and f Parkinson's Disease.
I hereby set my hand and seal This 19 <sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011
John Hieftje, Mayor

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