



WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive, neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is estimated to affect approximately one million people in the United States, and the prevalence will rise to 1.2 million by 2030; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and it is estimated that the economic burden of Parkinson's disease is approximately \$52 billion annually, including direct and indirect costs, treatment, social security payments, and loss of income to patients and family members; and

WHEREAS, research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown, and there are no specific tests or biomarkers for the disease; however, there is promising medical research and new drugs to slow the progression of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders; and a variety of other non-motor symptoms; and

WHEREAS, volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life for persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families; and

WHEREAS, increased research, education, and community support services, such as those provided by the Parkinson's Foundation and other organizations, are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, do hereby proclaim **April 2026** as **PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH** in Rockville, Maryland, and call upon all residents to join all communities and across the region to understand this disease and support research and efforts to find a cure.




Monique Ashton, Mayor


Kate Fulton, Councilmember


Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember


Barry Jackson, Councilmember


Marissa Valeri, Councilmember


David Myles, Councilmember


Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

April 13, 2026