

**CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
PROCLAMATION**

Huntington's Disease Awareness Day

WHEREAS, Huntington's disease is a progressive degenerative neurological disease affecting 30,000 Americans while another 200,000 are genetically "at risk" of inheriting the expanded gene responsible for causing the disease; and

WHEREAS, each child of a parent with Huntington's disease has a 50 percent chance of inheriting the Huntington's disease gene; and

WHEREAS, Huntington's disease typically occurs in mid-life, between the ages of 30 and 50, though onset has been known to occur in children as young as 2 years of age; and

WHEREAS, the average lifespan after onset of Huntington's disease is 10-20 years, and the younger the age of onset, the more rapid the progression of the disease, resulting in children who develop the juvenile form of the disease rarely living to adulthood; and

WHEREAS, since the discovery of the gene that causes Huntington's disease in 1993, the pace of Huntington's disease research has accelerated, and today scientists across the nation are conducting important research into Huntington's disease, which at present has no effective treatment or cure; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the success of research and support services to raise awareness in the general public and the medical community about Huntington's disease; and

WHEREAS, Huntington's Disease Society of America TEAM HOPE will conduct a Central Illinois Hope Walk Family Fun Day and 2-Mile Walk in Washington, IL beginning at 9:30 a.m. on June 18th at Oak Ridge Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary W. Manier, Mayor of the City of Washington, Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 17th, 2017, as Huntington's Disease Awareness Day, in order to raise public awareness, and to encourage all citizens to learn more about Huntington's disease and support those who are affected.

PROCLAIMED this 12th day of June, 2017.

Gary W. Manier, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Patricia S. Brown, City Clerk