

RESOLUTION 31-08

Older Americans Month: May 2008

WHEREAS, Polk County is a community in which 8,174 citizens age 60 or older make their home; and

WHEREAS, older adults in Polk County and throughout the U.S. are a growing population with evolving needs; and

WHEREAS, older Americans are valuable members of our society who are rich with experience and deserving of our respect; and

WHEREAS, the number of baby boomers reaching traditional retirement age continues to increase, a fact that spotlights the need for increased attention to the needs of older adults; and

WHEREAS, our older citizens of today and tomorrow promise to be among the most active and engaged older adult populations in our Nation's history;

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of this and all U.S. communities to work together and prepare for changing older adult populations by modernizing systems of care and providing consumers with more control over their lives; and

WHEREAS, overall quality of life can be greatly enhanced when supportive communities help their older citizens obtain:

Evidence-based approaches to making behavioral changes that can reduce risk of disease, disability, and injury.

The tools to make informed decisions about, and gain better access to, existing health and long-term care options.

More options to avoid placement in nursing homes and remain at home as long as possible

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors proclaim May 2008 to be Older Americans Month. We urge everyone to take time this May to honor our older adults and the professionals, family members, and citizens who care for older adults. We urge all citizens/communities to work collaboratively to strengthen the services Polk County provides to its older adults in ways that recognize the changing nature of their needs, and that provide older adults with more opportunities to make informed choices about their lives. Our efforts can improve the lives of our older citizens and help pave the way for future generations.

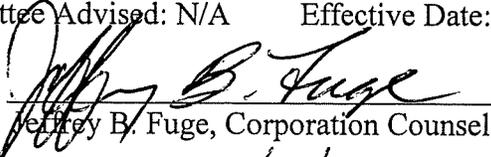
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Approved as to form:

  
Jeffrey B. Fuge, Corporation Counsel

Date Submitted to County Board

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County Board Action: *Adopted.*

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