

RESOLUTION 21-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DUNEDIN, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE CITY AS A “HIDDEN HEROES” CITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, a 2014 RAND Corporation study commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation shows that as a result of the series of wars and conflicts in which the United States has been engaged since World War II, 5.5 million individuals, including parents, spouses, siblings and friends, are caregivers to ill or injured military service-members and veterans who have served our nation; and

WHEREAS, the daily tasks of these military and veteran caregivers, many of whom are employed outside the home to earn essential income, may include bathing, dressing, feeding, and caring for the grievous injuries of wounded warriors, administering medications, providing emotional support; and

WHEREAS, the United States provides multifaceted support to wounded, ill and injured veterans and service-members through public, private and philanthropic resources, but caregivers receive little support or acknowledgement despite research that shows an alarming number suffer debilitating mental, physical and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, most military and veteran caregivers consider the challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and patriotic duty, without realizing they are, in fact, caregivers, and do not identify themselves as such; and

WHEREAS, the Elizabeth Dole Foundation established the Hidden Heroes campaign to raise awareness of the issues confronted daily by these caregivers and to inspire individuals, businesses, and community leaders to take action in supporting caregivers in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dunedin desires to recognize and support those who are serving in these vital roles in our own community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DUNEDIN, FLORIDA, IN SESSION DULY AND REGULARLY ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. The City of Dunedin is hereby established as a "Hidden Heroes" City in support of military service-member and veteran caregivers.

Section 2. The City of Dunedin encourages all who care for and support veterans and service members to extend that support to their caregivers.

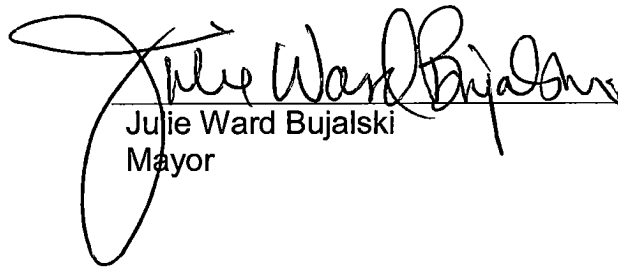
Section 3. The City of Dunedin encourages citizens and organizations wanting to offer support for military and veteran caregivers to work with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation and the Hidden Heroes campaign.

Section 4. The members of the US Military Veterans Advisory Committee advise the City Commission on best practices to ensure that our government, organizations, employers and non-profits are aware of the unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers.

Section 5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DUNEDIN, FLORIDA, THIS 16TH day of February, 2021.




Julie Ward Bujalski
Mayor


Rebecca Schlichter
City Clerk