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### **WI Board for People with Developmental Disabilities Recognizes Family Caregiver Month**

Madison –The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (BPDD) recognizes and thanks family caregivers who ensure people with disabilities can live safely and productively in their homes and communities during November Family Caregiver Month.

About 80% of all care in the state is provided by family caregivers, according to the Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance, of which BPDD is a member.

“Particularly in light of the ongoing nationwide caregiver crisis, family caregivers continue to be critical in supporting people with disabilities,” said Beth Swedeen, BPDD Executive Director. “Unpaid family caregivers continue to provide supports, often well into their 70s and 80s. These parents, siblings, neighbors, friends, spouses and adult children are often the backup when direct care providers cannot be found, and desperately need and deserve more support.”

The Governor has proclaimed November Family Caregiver Month in recognition of the contributions of family caregivers. You can read the proclamation [here](#).

The Survival Coalition of more than 30 disability organizations shared a report in early 2018 from its survey of more than 500 people living with disabilities. Survey respondents reported that 95% have a hard time finding caregivers, and nearly half report that they experience 7 or more missed caregiver shifts per month.

BPDD is part of the Governor’s Task Force on Caregiving, which includes a charge of “Supporting families providing care for their loved ones through respite services and other supports.”

For information about work being done by the Governor’s Task Force on Caregiving, visit <https://gtfc.wisconsin.gov>.