

Sponsored by: Mayor DeVries  
Adopted: 05/02/23

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 23-047**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY APPROVING THE HIDDEN HEROES DESIGNATION FROM THE ELIZABETH DOLE FOUNDATION AND PLEDGING TO SUPPORT MILITARY AND VETERAN CAREGIVERS IN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH.

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WHEREAS, there are 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers in the United States. These spouses, mothers, fathers, and other loved ones put their lives on hold to care for their wounded veterans and service members at home, in most cases without any outside support; and

WHEREAS, the Elizabeth Dole Foundation is an organization dedicated to strengthening and empowering our nation's military and veteran caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Hidden Heroes is a program established in 2016 by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation to encourage cities to increase resources for military and veteran caregivers; and

WHEREAS, through this program participating communities across the nation can streamline services and share best practices for addressing the needs of caregivers at a local level; and

WHEREAS, the Borough seeks to identify military and veteran caregivers residing in our community to ensure that our government, organizations, employers and nonprofits are aware of the unique

challenges they face and help to connect them with local resources;  
and

WHEREAS, the Borough, in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's national Hidden Heroes Campaign, will plan an annual observance or resource fair to connect caregivers with local resources; and

WHEREAS, the Borough will designate a point of contact from the public or private sector, for citizens and organizations wanting to offer support, and for caregivers who need that support; and

WHEREAS, the Borough will use the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's Military Caregiver Experience Map to understand the stages of the military caregiver journey and use it as a tool to encourage community understanding and support for those caring for our veterans.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 2 day of May, 2023.

  
EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Hale, Nowers, McKee, Yundt, Tew, Fonov, and  
Bernier