

die each year from alcohol-related causes. Recent estimates suggest that the abuse of alcohol and drugs costs taxpayers more than \$294 billion annually in preventable health care costs, extra law enforcement, automobile accidents, crime, and lost productivity. Addiction to nicotine adds an additional \$138 billion to our country's financial burden.

My proposed budget provides assistance to those addicted to drugs. My Administration's proposal for enhanced treatment will increase funding for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and the National Institute on Drug Abuse and provides \$111 million of additional funding to increase access to substance abuse treatment. The budget includes \$74 million for the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment program, which provides formula grants supporting drug and alcohol treatment in State and local correctional facilities. This initiative is evidence-based and requires real accountability from recipients.

Scientific research also holds a great deal of promise in treating drug and alcohol addiction. Publicly funded biomedical research, supported by the National Institutes of Health, plays an important role in finding effective means of preventing and treating these disorders. These research efforts allow scientists to target optimal points for intervention. Through Federally supported clinical trials, new treatments can be developed for communities in need across our country.

Alcohol and drug addiction destroys lives and threatens the well-being of our country, and we must address it with concerted, sustained, and purposeful strategies. If we focus more of our Nation's attention, energy, and resources on fighting these addictions, we will rescue lives and restore hope.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2001, as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Prevention Month. I call upon all public officials and the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:34 a.m., November 14, 2001]

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**Proclamation 7497—National
Alzheimer's Disease Awareness
Month, 2001**

November 9, 2001

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

Approximately four million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's disease. It is a progressive degenerative disorder of the brain that robs those affected of their memory and much of their mental and physical function, leading to their total dependence on caregivers, and ultimately death. Slightly more than half of Alzheimer's disease patients receive care from their family and friends at home. Years of providing for the emotional, physical, and financial needs of a loved one with this difficult disease can be emotionally painful and exhausting for a caregiver.

The chance of having Alzheimer's disease rises significantly with age, and as older Americans become a larger percentage of our Nation's population, the number of people expected to develop Alzheimer's will rise dramatically. It has been estimated that 14 million Americans, mostly seniors, will suffer from Alzheimer's by the middle of this century.

My Administration is strongly committed to meeting the challenges of Alzheimer's disease by increasing funding for Federal medical research programs as well as providing improved support to Alzheimer's patients and their families and caregivers. Through

the efforts of scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and in the private sector, we are making great strides in defining genetic and environmental risks, diagnosing the disease in its earliest stages, and testing potential treatments. In addition, the NIH and the Department of Veterans Affairs are sponsoring research that focuses on improving care and easing the burden on those providing care at home and in nursing facilities. Finally, the Administration on Aging is working under the Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Project Grants to States Program to expand the availability of diagnostic and support services available for Alzheimer's disease patients, their families, and their caregivers.

Our Nation's medical research programs have produced significant advances in the delivery of health care for our older generations. In recent years, our seniors' retirement years have been fuller, more productive, and healthier. Despite this overall improvement in health care, Alzheimer's disease continues to take many of the best and most enjoyable years of life from millions of seniors. Much progress has been made in the study of Alzheimer's disease, but the fight to determine what causes it and to develop effective ways to treat and prevent the disease continues.

As we observe National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, I call on all Americans to learn more about the disease and to take time to honor and support Alzheimer's disease patients and their families. We should also acknowledge the scientists, physicians, nurses, and other medical and health professionals who are working diligently to advance knowledge and understanding of Alzheimer's disease.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2001, as National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of

the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

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Proclamation 7498—National Family Caregivers Month, 2001

November 9, 2001

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During November, we traditionally give thanks for our many blessings, which include the dedication and sacrifice of our Nation's many family caregivers who enhance the lives of loved ones by helping them live at home, despite challenges that hinder independent living.

More than 7 million Americans devote themselves to this noble responsibility. Family caregivers dedicate an average of 20 hours per week in care for their loved ones and, in some cases, fulfill their multiple responsibilities around the clock. Those who provide in-home care for the elderly and for persons with disabilities face many demands. In performing such challenging and compassionate duties, family caregivers must sacrifice considerable time, resources, and personal comfort.

But these caregivers allow many older Americans to remain at home who would otherwise have to live in nursing homes. Seniors who live at home usually live longer, enjoy a more active life, and spend more time with their families and communities. As they lead fuller lives, this great generation continues to enrich our country by sharing their valuable wisdom and experience with younger generations.

To support those who work to keep their loved ones at home, my Administration has begun to implement the "National Family