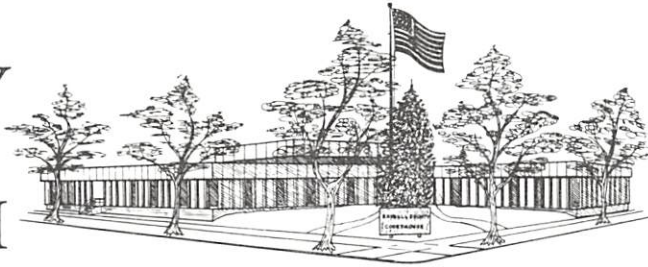


COUNTY OF RAVALLI



April 24, 2020

Ms. Susan Kohler - CEO
Missoula Aging Services
337 Stephens Avenue
Missoula, MT 59801

RE: Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative Grant Application

Dear Ms. Kohler,

We are writing to express our support for Ravalli County Council on Aging (RCCOA) grant application to develop programs that assist those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their caregivers in Ravalli County. Through funding from the Administration for Community Living (ACL), RCCOA dementia-capable home and community-based programs will provide a great benefit to Ravalli County and especially our residents suffering from Alzheimer's and other dementias, as well as those who care for them.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, there are currently more than 5 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD), and with no cure, ADRD is the 6th leading cause of death in the U.S. Early and appropriate diagnoses and outreach are needed to help individuals obtain appropriate care, adopt lifestyle changes, and plan for the future. This grant opportunity will allow RCCOA to fill in gaps for those living alone with ADRD, people with developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries, and better caregiving support.

This grant opportunity will provide better Alzheimer's disease screening, education, and other resources, thus further enhancing the impact on those who need these services most. Montana is in great need of more services that help those with ADRD and their caregivers. Montana is a very rural state so those living in rural communities will have very different experiences receiving care and resources than those in more urban areas or on tribal reservations. This proposal will help develop programs that could be disseminated and used by other organizations throughout the state.

Sincerely,

Chris Hoffman, Chairman

Greg Chilcott, Member

Jeff Burrows, Member