WHEREAS, direct support professionals, direct care workers, and in-home support workers are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term supports and services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Sedgwick County; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals must build close, respectful and trusted relationships with individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide a broad range of individualized support, including employment support, meal preparation, bathing, dressing, transportation and the pursuit of personal interests and relationships; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential support to help individuals with disabilities to develop and maintain connections to family, friends and communities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals assist individuals with disabilities in making choices that lead to meaningful, productive and successful lives in their community and avoid costly institutional care; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals help strengthen Sedgwick County communities by facilitating inclusion for people with disabilities:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Chairman David T. Dennis, and the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby recognize September 9 -15, 2018 as

NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

In Sedgwick County and urge all citizens to recognize this observance.

September 5, 2018