

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Proclaiming March 10, 2013 as National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. March 10, 2013, is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is a day to "Share Knowledge and Take Action." The nationwide observance held each March 10th sheds light on the disease's often overlooked impact on women and girls and empowers people to make a difference.
- b. Of the more than 1.1 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States today, 280,000 are women. In 2009, there were 11,200 new HIV infections and in 2010 there were 8,422 new AIDS diagnoses among women. Research suggests that women with HIV face limited access to care and experience disparities in access, compared to men.
- c. The disease disproportionately impacts people of color, but African Americans experience the highest rates of HIV infection. From 2006–2010, an average of 23 females (1.9 cases per 100,000 female population) were diagnosed with HIV each year in Oregon. During the same period, the rate of diagnosis was highest among black or African American females at a rate of 14 cases per 100,000, 12 times higher than the rate among white females (1.2 per 100,000).
- d. The impact of HIV on young women is particularly notable. More than 6 in 10 new HIV infections among Black women and Latinas were among those ages 13-39 in 2009 – over one third were ages 13-29.
- e. The African American AIDS Awareness Action Alliance (A6) and its member agencies including Cascade AIDS Project, Multnomah County Health Department, the Oregon Health Authority HIV Prevention Program, Planned Parenthood of the Columbia Willamette, the Portland Chapter of the LINKS, Inc, and the Albina Ministerial Alliance are working together to increase HIV/AIDS awareness and recognize this day and its importance to all concerned citizens.

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- f. National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day serves as an opportunity for Multnomah County officials and citizens to come together to offer support, encourage discussion, and educate women and girls about prevention of HIV transmission, the importance of getting tested for HIV, and how to live with and manage HIV/AIDS.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

March 10, 2013 is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in Multnomah County, Oregon.

ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2013.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Jeff Cogen, Chair

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Loretta Smith, District 2