

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

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Recognizing World AIDS Day on December 1, 2017 in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

A. More than 30 years ago, the first known cases of HIV/AIDS set off an epidemic in the United States characterized by fear, ignorance and stigma. What followed has been an extraordinary battle against HIV—one that Multnomah County has proudly helped to lead. However, much work remains to be done. Today on World AIDS Day, we come together to remember those lives who have been lost to HIV/AIDS, to celebrate the many successes related to treating and preventing HIV, and to rededicate ourselves to the goal of an AIDS-free generation.

B. The 2017 US World AIDS Day theme is “Increasing Impact through Transparency, Accountability, and Partnerships.” Multnomah County supports this theme through our continued commitment to implement the National HIV/AIDS strategy in communities we serve.

C. Today, more people are receiving life-saving treatment for HIV than ever before, and millions of new HIV infections have been prevented. Still, more than 36 million people around the world live with HIV – with over 2 million new infections every year. Multnomah County has much at stake – more than half of the people diagnosed with HIV in Oregon reside in our County.

D. Multnomah County has collaborated with community organizations for over 25 years to bring testing services to Oregonians. World AIDS Day seeks to raise awareness on the importance of testing as a means to prevention.

E. Proven tools have helped maintain low levels of new HIV infection in Oregon. We support Oregonians at high risk of contracting HIV having access to a daily pill to prevent HIV, called PrEP.

F. With HIV treatment, people are living longer, healthier lives. HIV positive people who take daily HIV treatment, as prescribed, and maintain undetectable viral loads, have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV to their partners. We must focus our efforts on increasing access to care and improving support services to help HIV positive Oregonians get and stay in care.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

In light of the continued importance of public awareness of the epidemic, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims December 1, 2017 as World AIDS Day in Multnomah County.

ADOPTED this 30th day of November, 2017.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By:

Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Loretta Smith, District 2