

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Craig Lowe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, World AIDS Day, established in 1988, serves to unite people around the world to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and demonstrate international solidarity; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama in his 2011 Presidential Proclamation recognized the need to take action as a nation with the implementation of a comprehensive National HIV/AIDS Strategy; and

WHEREAS, observance of this day provides an opportunity for nations, faith-based organizations, foundations, businesses, academic institutions and community organizations, that are critically important to the fight against HIV, to raise awareness about the status of the pandemic and encourage progress in HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care efforts; and

WHEREAS, with an estimated 34 million people worldwide living with HIV, and more than 30 million people having died of AIDS since 1981, World AIDS Day serves as a reminder to reflect on the people that we have lost and those we hold dear who are living with or affected by HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS does not discriminate; an estimated 1.1 million HIV+ people live in the United States in which 1 in 5 are unaware of their status and approximately 50,000 new infections occur each year—the U.S. like other nations around the world is deeply affected by HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, HIV-related stigma remains a major barrier for accessing prevention, testing, healthcare and supportive services; we commit to stand with individuals and communities affected by HIV/AIDS to combat stigma through engaging people living with HIV/AIDS in unique opportunities that help to promote understanding and increase knowledge in the broader community; and

WHEREAS, on December 1st, we come together as a global community, across continents, faiths and cultures, to renew our commitment to ending the AIDS pandemic—once and for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Lowe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2012 as

World AIDS Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in encouraging all community organizations, county health departments, faith-based organizations, educational institutions, social service agencies, elected officials and government agencies to promote this day to raise awareness and take steps to diminish HIV/AIDS-related stigma.

I, N WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 29th day of October, C.E., 2012.



Craig Lowe
Craig Lowe
Mayor