

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Edward B. Braddy
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; showing the disease does not discriminate. 1 in 9 people worldwide have HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 5 people in the United States infected with HIV/AIDS is unaware of their HIV status; and it is estimated that only 66% of those who are HIV Positive are linked to care; and

WHEREAS, there are more people living with and dying from HIV/AIDS in the Southeast; and

WHEREAS, Alachua County ranks 15th in the state for the number of HIV/AIDS cases with nearly 1,000 people in Alachua County living with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS related stigma remains a major barrier for accessing prevention, testing, healthcare and support services; we recognize the local efforts of our AIDS service organizations, Let's Talk About It, Gainesville Area AIDS Project, Positives Empowering Positives and Positive Attitudes Support Group, as well as the many other local organizations which are united in their efforts to bring together HIV positive advocates and HIV negative individuals to build a pathway to a stigma-free community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville stands with community members who are living with HIV/AIDS and honors those who have passed away from this disease. On December 1st, in recognition of World AIDS Day, we come together as part of the global community, to renew our commitment to ending the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Alachua County and throughout the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edward B. Braddy, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2013 as

World AIDS Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in honoring those who are living with and have died from HIV/AIDS by increasing HIV related health literacy and promoting World AIDS Day to raise awareness of this disease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 30th day of October, A.D., 2013.



Ed B. Braddy

Edward B. Braddy
Mayor