

# *CITY OF YAKIMA*

## *PROCLAMATION*

*WHEREAS, World AIDS Day began on December 1, 1998 with the goal of raising money, increasing awareness, fighting prejudice, and improving education about HIV/AIDS; and*

*WHEREAS, World AIDS Day continues to be an important way to celebrate the extraordinary advances we have made in the battle against HIV and AIDS and to remind Yakima residents and people everywhere that HIV has not gone away and that much more has yet to be done; and*

*WHEREAS, globally, more than 22 million people have died from AIDS, and more than 33 million people are living with HIV though the death rate from this disease is slowly declining, millions have died from this disease and millions more are still at risk; and*

*WHEREAS, every 9.5 minutes someone in the United States is infected with HIV; and*

*WHEREAS, Yakima has over 13 people infected with HIV and an estimated 255 that are HIV positive and are unaware of their status; and*

*WHEREAS, women and children around the world are particularly vulnerable due to gender inequalities, gaps in access to services and increases in sexual violence; and*

*WHEREAS, expanded HIV testing diagnosis and treatment can help reduce the suffering from this entirely preventable disease,*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathy Coffey, Mayor of the City of Yakima and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2018 as*

### *“World AIDS Day”*

*in the City of Yakima and urge all citizens to take part in activities and observances designed to increase awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS as a global challenge, to take part in HIV/AIDS prevention activities and programs, and to join the global effort to prevent the further spread of HIV/AIDS.*

*Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018*

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*Kathy Coffey, Mayor*