

# CITY OF LAKE WORTH BEACH

## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** The first World AIDS Day was held in 1988, providing a platform to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and honor the lives affected by the epidemic. 2023 marks the 35<sup>th</sup> commemoration of this important day with the theme “World AIDS Day 35: Remember and Commit”. The 35th commemoration of World AIDS Day is an opportunity to reflect on the journey, acknowledge and celebrate the progress made, and recognize the challenges remaining; and
- WHEREAS,** An estimated 39 million people world-wide are living with HIV, with an estimated 1.3 million new infections occurring in 2022, which is a decline of 38% in new HIV infections since 2010; and
- WHEREAS,** 29.8 million people with HIV globally (76% of all people with HIV) knew their status in 2022 and were accessing life-saving antiretroviral therapy (ART); the remaining 14% did not know their status and needed access to HIV testing services and treatment; and
- WHEREAS,** The global spread of HIV necessitates a worldwide effort to increase communication, education and action to stop the spread of HIV; and
- WHEREAS,** The Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) observes December 1 of each year as “World AIDS Day”, and leads and inspires the world to achieve its shared vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths; and
- WHEREAS,** The 95-95-95 ambitious global plan to help end the AIDS epidemic has set its goal for 2025, that 95% of all people with diagnosed HIV receive sustained ART and 95% of those individuals on treatment achieve and maintain HIV viral suppression; and
- WHEREAS,** Clinical evidence has firmly established that people with HIV who achieve and maintain an undetectable viral load by taking ART as prescribed cannot sexually transmit the virus to others; this is known as Undetectable=Untransmittable, or U=U; and
- WHEREAS,** More than 8,600 persons are living with HIV in Palm Beach County; the mission of the Palm Beach County HIV Community Prevention Partnership is to promote community participation and involvement in HIV prevention services and activities; and
- WHEREAS,** In the City of Lake Worth Beach, Compass Community Center has been providing life-saving services to the residents of Palm Beach County and South Florida for 35 years, engaging, empowering and enriching the lives of those impacted by HIV and AIDS.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Betty Resch, Mayor of the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida,  
by virtue of the authority vested in me and on behalf of the City Commission,  
do hereby proclaim:

**DECEMBER 1, 2023**

**as**

**WORLD AIDS DAY**

and urge all residents of the city of Lake Worth Beach to take part in activities and observances designed to increase awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS as a global challenge and urge residents to join the global effort to prevent further spread of HIV/AIDS.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Resch, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Ann Coyne, MMC, City Clerk

