



City of Mercer Island, Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, as many as 1 in 5 Americans are living with various disabilities, whether from diseases, injuries, aging, or other causes. Disability IS diversity, and the disabled deserve the same opportunities for accessibility as others do , as a matter of fairness, equity, and inclusion.

1 in 10 people suffer from nearly 11,000 different rare diseases, and 95 percent of them do not have a cure, according to the National Institute of Health (NIH).

Rare Disease Day is observed annually on the last day of February, the rarest date on the calendar, to underscore the nature of rare diseases and their effects on us all.

Since 2008, Rare Disease Day has brought together millions of people worldwide in solidarity with the 300 million people living with a rare disease.

The theme for Rare Disease day 2024 is Share Your Colors. On February 29, community members are invited to Share Your Colors in solidarity with the 300 million people living with a rare disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Salim Nice, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim February 29 as

RARE DISEASE DAY

on Mercer Island and I encourage Islanders to support the #RareDiseaseDay campaign by expressing support for those living with rare diseases in the Mercer Island community.

APPROVED, this 20th day of FEBRUARY 2024

Mayor Salim Nice

Proclamation No. 322



RARE DISEASE DAY®