



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 do other citizens, as a matter of fairness, equity and inclusion.

1 in 10 people suffer from nearly 11,000 rare diseases with 95 percent of them without any cure or effective therapies, according to the National Institute of Health (NIH).

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

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 2023 is Light Up for Rare. On February 28 community members are invited to light up in solidarity with the 300 million people living with a rare disease. #LightUpForRare campaign by illuminating your home or office.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Salim Nice, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim February 28 as

Rare Disease Day in Mercer Island

APPROVED, this 21st day of FEBRUARY 2023

Mayor Salim Nice

Proclamation No. 301



RARE DISEASE DAY®