



The City of Mercer Island, Washington

Proclamation

WeLoveMI COVID-19 Relief Campaign

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Mercer Island Community Fund, Mercer Island High School International Entrepreneurship class, the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce, and other community leaders joined forces to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by establishing the WeLoveMI campaign on Mercer Island; and,

WHEREAS, the WeLoveMI campaign represents a stellar example of community collaboration by bringing together these student leaders and advocates from organizations across Mercer Island, including the Community Fund, Rotary, Mercer Island Youth and Family Services, Mercer Island Schools Foundation, Mercer Island Boys and Girls Club, the Stroum Jewish Community Center, and the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce; and,

WHEREAS, WeLoveMI was created to inspire the Mercer Island community to come together in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to support our friends and neighbors and the businesses, nonprofits, and other community organizations who serve Mercer Island and are vital to the Island's economic vitality and quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, the WeLoveMI campaign has taken strides to rally the Mercer Island community by providing a platform for those impacted to share their story and need with the community and making it easy for community members to learn about and directly support those Mercer Island nonprofits and businesses that have been negatively impacted during the crisis; and,

WHEREAS, WeLoveMI enables Islanders to make tax-deductible donations directly to trusted and proven 501(c)(3) nonprofits that benefit Mercer Island citizens; and,

WHEREAS, WeLoveMI also encourages all Island businesses to join the campaign and provides an online directory of participating businesses' GoFundMe fundraising page, allowing Islanders to easily support the businesses of their choice, and the More Ways to Love MI page also offers citizens resources and ideas on other ways to support the community through the COVID-19 crisis; and,

WHEREAS, during Governor Inslee's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order, the WeLoveMI campaign has made a dramatic impact on the Mercer Island community, helping vital community organizations stay afloat during an unprecedented crisis. To date, the campaign has helped raise more than \$81,000 in support of local organizations, and that amount increases every day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Benson Wong, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim May 22, 2020 as

WeLoveMI COVID-19 Relief Day

in Mercer Island. The City of Mercer Island recognizes the outstanding student and community collaboration, caring and creativity in helping local businesses and nonprofits on Mercer Island.

APPROVED, this 19th day of May 2020

Benson Wong, Mayor

Proclamation No. 251

