

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 13-0134

In Support of Indigenous Peoples HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

WHEREAS, HIV and AIDS has affected the City and County of Denver more than any other area in the state and region, reporting the most persons living with the disease, most HIV and/or AIDS-related deaths, and 41% of new HIV infections in the state; and

WHEREAS, according to Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, by the end of 2012, nearly 11,700 people were reported to be living with HIV in the state of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the continued spread of HIV/AIDS among Native Hawaiians, American Indians, and Alaska Natives poses a significant risk to the public health and well-being of these communities, the American Indian and Alaska Native population had the largest percent increase among racial and ethnic groups of new HIV infections between 2007 and 2011 – rising by 8.7%, despite having the smallest populations in the country; and

WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives had the 3rd highest rate of new HIV infections in Colorado in 2012, and the percent of American Indian and Alaska Native people living with HIV/AIDS in Colorado is higher than the corresponding national figure; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver recognizes the national efforts to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS on impacted communities through the designation of March 10th as National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and March 20th as National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver recognizes the continued work to bring HIV and AIDS awareness by groups such as: Branching Seedz of Resistance, Cafe Cultura, Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights, Denver HIV Resource Planning Council, Denver Indian Health and Family Services, Latinos Integrating Sexuality Teaching Others Safer Sex, National Native American AIDS Prevention Center, Servicios de La Raza, Sisters of Color United for Education, and Youth HIV Advocacy Coalition.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That Denver City Council proclaims March 20, 2013, to be known as Indigenous Peoples HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that copies be transmitted to National Native American AIDS Prevention Center and Café Cultura.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL March 4, 2013

PRESIDENT