

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 20-0544 NASH Awareness Day

WHEREAS, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) and its more severe form, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) are rapidly growing epidemics that are becoming the leading cause of chronic liver disease affecting a combined 25 % of people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, more than 80 million Americans are affected by NAFLD and up to 16 million Americans by NASH, including up to 10% of children and this number is expected to increase to a combined 100 million by 2030 due to its association with commensurate increases in obesity, diabetes and high cholesterol; and

WHEREAS, of all ethnicities in the United States and Colorado, Latin Americans are disproportionately affected by NAFLD and are at a higher risk of progressing to the more severe form, NASH; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that NASH will be the predominant cause of liver transplant in the United States by 2030 and the liver transplant waitlist due to NASH is projected to increase by 55% over the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, NAFLD and NASH are largely silent diseases with few symptoms and thus a lack of awareness among at-risk patients and health care providers resulting in under-diagnosis until it has progressed to severe liver disease such as liver cancer, cirrhosis, end-stage liver disease or the need for transplant; and

WHEREAS, successful reversal of NAFLD and NASH is possible if diagnosed early enough before it has progressed to liver cancer and cirrhosis; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for significantly increased awareness among health care providers, at risk patients, the Latin American community and the community at large in order to improve early diagnosis and prevention.

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

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver hereby proclaim June 12th, 2020 Denver NASH Awareness Day.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to national NASH awareness group.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL June 8, 2020

_____ PRESIDENT