

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Proclaiming Thursday, December 1, 2011 as World AIDS Day in Multnomah County, Oregon

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. According to UNAIDS estimates, there are now 33.2 million people living with HIV, including approximately 2 million children. Currently, some 2.7 million people became newly infected with the virus. Around half of all people who become infected with HIV do so before they are 25.
- b. Over 4,600 Oregonians are currently living with HIV/AIDS. Of these, 76% reside in the Portland Metro area.
- c. Approximately 300 people are newly diagnosed with HIV in Oregon each year; 40% of these individuals progress to AIDS within the first year because they delayed getting tested for the disease.
- d. Health disparities persist in Multnomah County. Due to social inequities, populations disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS include African-American and African Immigrant communities and men who have sex with men.
- e. A new report by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), shows 2011 was a game changing year for the worldwide response to HIV/AIDS with unprecedented progress in science, political leadership and results. The report also shows that new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths have fallen to the lowest levels since the peak of the epidemic. New HIV infections were reduced by 21% since 1997, and deaths from AIDS-related illnesses decreased by 21% since 2005.
- f. HIV remains a significant public health problem and highlights the need for a strong, sustained and coordinated international, national and local strategy.

- g. The theme for the local World AIDS Day campaign is “30 Years of AIDS, TIME for ACTION”. World AIDS Day 2011 provides an opportunity to fight HIV/AIDS and highlight continued efforts to support early HIV detection, care and access to treatment. This results in lowered mortality, fewer disease complications and reduced HIV transmission.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

December 1, 2011 is World AIDS Day in Multnomah County, Oregon. The Morrison Bridge will be lit red on December 1, to commemorate World AIDS Day. We encourage all residents to educate themselves about the risks of HIV and demonstrate compassion to those infected by HIV and AIDS.

ADOPTED this 1st day of December, 2011.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Jeff Cogen, County Chair

Deborah Kafoury,
Commissioner District 1

Loretta Smith,
Commissioner District 2

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SUBMITTED BY:
Commissioner Judy Shiprack