

SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXECUTIVE Snohomish County, Washington

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING DECEMBER 1, 2023 AS WORLD AIDS DAY IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have recognized December 1 as World AIDS Day since 1988, making 2023 the 35th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, the national theme for 2023 is "World AIDS Day 35 - Remember and Commit"; and

WHEREAS, World AIDS Day is an opportunity to reflect on the progress made in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, raise awareness of the continuing work in Snohomish County and around the world, and demonstrate support for the goal of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County has a strong system of HIV/AIDS prevention services including harm reduction needle exchange, support for early intervention testing of HIV and STIs, use of anti-retroviral medications, partner notification and contact tracing; and

WHEREAS, many Snohomish County residents continue to live with HIV/AIDS, the current caseload at Lifelong Services in Everett is approximately 480 Snohomish County residents living with AIDS and there are approximately 25 new HIV infections reported each year; and

WHEREAS, the AIDS Project Snohomish County in partnership with Lifelong, Sound Pathways, Catholic Community Services, and the Snohomish Health Department have provided excellent, local services in advocacy, prevention, housing, and case management for 30 years;

NOW, *THEREFORE*, *I*, *DAVE SOMERS*, Snohomish County Executive, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2023, as World AIDS Day in Snohomish County. I encourage all residents, visitors, and businesses in Snohomish County to commemorate the 35th annual observance and to participate in recognition activities including the walk organized by the AIDS Project Snohomish County on December 1 from the Lifelong Everett office to the AIDS Memorial on the Snohomish County Campus.

SIGNED this 1st day of December, 2023.

Dave Somers
County Executive