



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

WORLD AIDS DAY

WHEREAS, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, or AIDS, is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, which is a public health issue that significantly impacts communities across our state and country; and

WHEREAS, each year on World AIDS Day, the global community, including Florida, comes together to remember family and friends lost to HIV and stand with an estimated 38 million people living with HIV worldwide; and

WHEREAS, HIV is the ninth leading cause of death in Florida, having claimed 644 lives in 2019 and 8,437 lives over the last decade; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, approximately 134,900 Floridians were living with HIV, 116,689 of whom were diagnosed; and

WHEREAS, Florida is committed to preventing transmission of HIV and empowering residents to live healthy lives; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Health works with community partners to prevent further loss of life to HIV through education, testing, treatment, support services, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, Floridians must come together to fight HIV and address the disparities experienced by people living with this disease; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, President Trump announced the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative to reduce HIV transmission by at least 90 percent in the United States within 10 years by focusing on diagnosis, treatment, prevention and response; and

WHEREAS, Florida will continue to support the implementation of the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative and change the course of the HIV pandemic, community by community; and


WHEREAS, more than 1,460 registered HIV testing sites across Florida conducted over 311,000 HIV tests in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Florida joins the world in supporting efforts to increase awareness and understanding of HIV and remembering those we have lost.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing December 1, 2020, as *World AIDS Day*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 1st day of December, in the year two thousand twenty.



Governor