



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, HIV is a worldwide public health concern; and

WHEREAS, HIV is a treatable infection and early intervention, HIV testing and linkage to treatment and PrEP are vital to the success of HIV prevention; and

WHEREAS, we have made great strides in reducing the number of new HIV cases and developing drug therapies for both treating and preventing new HIV infections; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, while HIV/AIDS diagnoses declined by 27% from 1,541 in 2007 to 1,124 in 2017, there were 38,114 people reported living with HIV or AIDS in New Jersey as of June 2019 and one in ten do not know they are living with HIV; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has designated December first as World AIDS Day to support individuals living with HIV to remember those who have died and to encourage everyone to seek HIV testing to determine if they need treatment; and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's World AIDS Day observance is "Communities Make the Difference," and New Jersey community-based organizations, hospitals, clinics, health care professionals, advocates and community members will commemorate World AIDS Day with activities around the State; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the efforts of these organizations which provide HIV testing, education, medical treatment and social support programs, protect the rights and dignity of people with HIV and those close to them, and remember the tens of thousands who have lost the battle with HIV/AIDS;

WHEREAS, New Jersey has pledged to end its statewide HIV epidemic by 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

**DECEMBER 1, 2019
AS
WORLD AIDS DAY**

in New Jersey and acknowledge the efforts of thousands of silent heroes fighting HIV and those in the spotlight who bravely speak up and create life-saving awareness.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-ninth day of November in the year two thousand nineteen, the two hundred forty-fourth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR