



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Major advances have made HIV disease preventable, treatable, and stoppable since World AIDS Day was first recognized in 1988; and
- WHEREAS: The risk of transmitting HIV currently can be reduced by 96% when viral suppression is achieved; and
- WHEREAS: Medical science continues to unlock new tools in the prevention and treatment of HIV including diagnostic tests and medications with fewer side effects, less frequent dosing, and lower drug resistance; and
- WHEREAS: Federal guidelines recommend routine HIV screening for people aged 15 – 65 and antiretroviral therapy for infected individuals; and
- WHEREAS: An estimated 55% of all Minnesota residents with HIV live in Hennepin County, and 25% of new cases in the state are identified at Hennepin County's Public Health Clinic; and
- WHEREAS: Nearly 40% of people living with HIV are not accessing care and disproportionately impacted communities continue to face significant stigma, greater barriers to care, and related health disparities; and
- WHEREAS: POSITIVELY HENNEPIN was created to ensure access to care, and retention, and engage disproportionately affected communities with the goal of stopping the spread of HIV; and
- WHEREAS: POSITIVELY HENNEPIN increases access to testing and medication, connects newly diagnosed people with services, identifies and engages those who are not currently accessing care, raises public awareness, and reduces stigma in disproportionately affected communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, December 1, 2016, as:

## POSITIVELY HENNEPIN DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 30<sup>th</sup> day of November.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE