

RESOLUTION NO. 080638

Declaring June 27, 2008 as "National HIV Testing Day"

WHEREAS, not all HIV-infected persons have been diagnosed nor are they aware of their infection status and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has stated that, nationwide, approximately 25% of HIV-infected persons are not aware that they are infected; and

WHEREAS, there are 6885 reported HIV/AIDS cases in the Kansas City Ryan White Transitional Grant Area (TGA) and Kansas City Prevention Planning Region, which includes the following counties in Missouri: Jackson, Clay, Platte, Cass, Clinton, Lafayette, and Ray, and the Kansas counties of Johnson, Wyandotte, Miami and Leavenworth, according to the City of Kansas City, Missouri Health Department, Communicable Disease Prevention Division; and it is estimated that the actual number of individuals infected with HIV who are presently living in this area is approximately 5600 persons; and

WHEREAS, an essential component of HIV prevention is to encourage and assist persons at risk for HIV infection to be tested so that, if infected, they can optimally benefit from available treatments, and be assisted in making behavioral changes to eliminate or reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kansas City, Missouri Health Department, HIV Prevention Program has a vision of creating a community without AIDS by preventing further transmission of HIV through HIV prevention, HIV counseling and HIV testing services and by sustaining a community where people infected with and affected by HIV can receive needed care services, live without fear, discrimination, or stigma; and

WHEREAS, National Testing Day provides an opportunity to increase public awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS and of the important work of the Kansas City, Missouri Health Department HIV Prevention program; and

WHEREAS, National HIV Testing Day is an opportunity for people nationwide to learn their HIV status, and to gain knowledge to take control of their health and their lives; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council do hereby declare June 27, 2008 as National HIV Testing Day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that a copy hereof be presented to the Kansas City, Missouri Health Department HIV Prevention Program with the Mayor and Council encouraging all citizens to get tested for HIV.

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