

# Resolution

**WHEREAS**, in the Greater Houston area, 30,988 residents are currently living with HIV, and an estimated 6,000 or more residents are unaware of their positive HIV status; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, over 1,182 new cases of HIV were diagnosed in Houston/Harris County, accounting for nearly one-third of all new diagnoses statewide; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the availability of free or low-cost HIV treatment services, stigma, discrimination, disparity, and other barriers continue impacting access to HIV medical care and treatment proven to extend and improve quality of life and reduce transmissions; and

**WHEREAS**, through its robust HIV/AIDS program, the Harris Health System serves nearly a quarter of those diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Harris County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ryan White HIV Program ensures all people living with HIV both nationally and in the Greater Houston area have access to high-quality medical care; and

**WHEREAS**, Thomas Street Health Center, the first free-standing HIV facility in the U.S., fully recommits to providing patients living with HIV/AIDS the latest treatments and highest-quality patient care; and

**WHEREAS**, the message of World AIDS Day supports the millions globally and thousands locally who live with HIV and encourages continued progress in breaking down the barriers that prevent people from accessing life-extending HIV medical care: now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Harris County Commissioners Court hereby designates Friday, December 1, 2023, as

## WORLD AIDS DAY

in Harris County, Texas, and urges all residents to seek information on protecting themselves and others from HIV, as well as support and encourage those living with HIV to access life-extending HIV medical care.

It is hereby **ORDERED** that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Commissioners Court this 14th day of November 2023.

---

**LINA HIDALGO, County Judge**

---

**RODNEY ELLIS**, Commissioner  
Precinct One

---

**ADRIAN GARCIA**, Commissioner  
Precinct Two

---

**TOM S. RAMSEY, P.E.**, Commissioner  
Precinct Three

---

**LESLEY BRIONES**, Commissioner  
Precinct Four

ATTEST:

---

Teneshia Hudspeth, County Clerk  
Harris County, T E X A S