



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, the joint United Nations Program (UNAIDS) on HIV/AIDS, the American Association for World Health, and the World Health Organization (WHO) observes December 1st of each year as World AIDS Day; and
- WHEREAS, UNAIDS estimates that over 42 million people worldwide are currently living with HIV/AIDS, and each day more than 8000 people under the age of 25 are infected with HIV, accounting for half of all new infections; and
- WHEREAS, World AIDS Day provides us all with an opportunity to "think globally and act locally" by focusing attention on the need for individual and collective involvement in the care of those living with AIDS and prevention of new HIV infections; and
- WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS remains a highly stigmatized condition, and fear and discrimination of that stigma may prevent many of society's most valuable contributors from seeking treatment, or from disclosing their sero-status; and
- WHEREAS, discrimination of any kind including that pertaining to a persons HIV status is not something that can be tolerated in the city of Key West, Florida where we strive to live as "One Human Family"; and
- WHEREAS, the Friends of the AIDS Memorial, Inc. in Key West will conduct a candlelight march and remembrance ceremony at the AIDS Memorial to which the public is invited at 5 PM on December 1, with the theme "Inspiring Memories - Transforming Lives."

NOW, THEREFORE, I Jimmy Weekley, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby proclaim
December 1st, 2003 as

WORLD AIDS DAY

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to take part in activities and observances designed to increase knowledge, awareness, and understanding of HIV/AIDS so we may help prevent its further spreading both locally and worldwide.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 18th day of November, 2003.



Jimmy Weekley, MAYOR