



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: African American and African-born communities have the most severe burden of HIV infection compared to all other racial/ethnic groups in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1 in 16 black men and 1 in 32 black women will be diagnosed with HIV infection at some point in their lifetime; and
- WHEREAS: African American and African-born communities represent approximately 12 percent of the population of the United States, and account for 47 percent of new HIV infections and 43 percent of people living with HIV; and
- WHEREAS: African American and African-born men, women and children represent over one-third, or 2,819 of the 7,988 persons reported to be living with HIV in Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is a nationwide observance to remember our lost loved ones, empower our communities, and impact our future by calling for all African Americans and Africans to get educated, tested, treated, and involved with their local HIV/AIDS community efforts; and
- WHEREAS: National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day will unite and mobilize community-based organizations and stakeholders to become one voice for change under the 2016 campaign slogan, "I Am My Brother's and Sister's Keeper: Fight HIV/AIDS!"; and
- WHEREAS: Local community-based organizations are hosting community events, exhibits, testing opportunities and trainings to recognize this day and its importance to these communities and all concerned citizens. We join with these national and local groups to express our strong support for National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, and the initiatives to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS in these communities, and to provide treatment and care services for those living with the disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, February 7, 2016, as:

BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS 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 5th of February.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE