

Proclamation

City of St. Joseph, Missouri

WORLD AIDS DAY

Whereas, the global pandemic of HIV infection and AIDS requires a worldwide effort to increase communication, education and leadership to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS; and

Whereas, the Joint United National Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) observes December 1 of each year as World AIDS Day. Establishing a day to remember and to strengthen global efforts to address the challenges of the AIDS pandemic, which continues to spread throughout every region of the world and remains a threat to people of all ages and nationalities; and

Whereas, UNAIDS estimates that there are currently 33 million adults living with HIV/AIDS worldwide, plus an additional 2.7 million new persons infected with HIV during 2007 and a total of 25 million individuals have died of AIDS since 1981; and

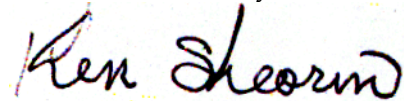
Whereas, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) encourages a better understanding of the challenge of HIV/AIDS nationally as it recognizes that the number of people diagnosed with HIV and AIDS in the United States continues to increase. Young people (ages 15-24 years old) account for ½ of all new HIV infections in the United States. One out of three individuals infected with HIV are unaware of their diagnosis; and

Whereas, this year's theme for World's AIDS Day – 2009, “**Stop AIDS—Access for All**”, encourages all levels and sectors of society in the HIV/AIDS epidemic to remember our promise regarding prevention of new infections of HIV/AIDS and providing support for all those who are affected/infected both here and abroad.

Now Therefore, I, Ken Shearin, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of St. Joseph, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, December 1, 2009 as **World AIDS Day** in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Furthermore, I, encourage all citizens to continue to take part in the activities and observances designed to increase awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS as a global and community threat and to support current and future HIV/AIDS prevention/care endeavors and to do their part to provide leadership to stop this epidemic. Together we can make a difference!

ISSUED: This 1st day of December, 2009



Ken Shearin

Mayor

