



Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS for over 50 years, community health centers have provided high quality, affordable health care in our nation's underserved communities, demonstrating that locally-governed health care can improve lives while lowering costs; and

WHEREAS our local community health centers provide high quality, cost effective and accessible primary and preventative care, including integrated medical, dental, behavioral health and pharmacy services to all individuals regardless of insurance status or ability to pay; and

WHEREAS the community health center model continues to prove an effective means of reducing health care disparities and overcoming barriers to health care access and, in doing so, improves health care outcomes and reduces health care system costs; and

WHEREAS Whatcom County is home to two community health centers, Unity Care NW and Sea Mar Community Health Centers, which together provide care to more than 34,300 of our neighbors; and

WHEREAS, our local community health centers employ the equivalent of 368 full-time employees; and

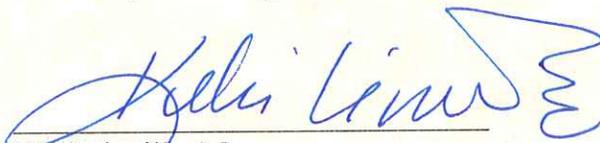
WHEREAS it is important to recognize the dedicated staff, board members and all those responsible for the continued success and growth of health centers in our community, and to celebrate the legacy of America's community health centers and their vital role in shaping the future; and

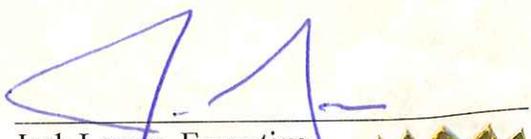
NOW, THEREFORE, DO WE, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive, proclaim August 7-13, 2016, to be

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County.

Signed this 14th day of July, 2016


Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham


Jack Louws, Executive
Whatcom County

