



CITY OF BELLINGHAM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
KELLI LINVILLE

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, December 21, 2016, marks the first day of winter and is the longest night of the year and;

WHEREAS, the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Health Care for the Homeless Council have designated December 21st as National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day and;

WHEREAS, the spirit of the holiday season of giving provides an opportunity for affirmation and renewal of the commitment to end homelessness and;

WHEREAS, hunger and homelessness are a serious challenge for many Bellingham citizens and;

WHEREAS, homelessness raises one's risk of illness, injury, victimization, and death and;

WHEREAS, service providers create relationships with people in the homeless community and they, along with friends and family members, need an opportunity to say goodbye and have closure in the grieving process and;

WHEREAS, people without homes have a lot to offer our community and this loss of life is a loss to us all and;

WHEREAS, uniting together as one community, we can end homelessness in Bellingham.

NOW THEREFORE, DO I, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim December 21, 2016,

A DAY OF OBSERVATION AND MOURNING OF THOSE WHO DIED WHILE HOMELESS

to remember those who have died and to encourage citizens to come together to celebrate their lives by working to resolve the factors that lead to homelessness in Bellingham.



Signed this 19th day of December, 2016

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham