

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, service to others is a hallmark of American democracy, and central to how we meet local challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, national service programs such as AmeriCorps and VISTA engages people of all ages in addressing the most pressing challenges facing our cities and nation; and

WHEREAS, local volunteer connector organizations such as United Way of Whatcom County, and the Whatcom Volunteer Center connect thousands of youth, adults, churches, businesses and civic groups with hundreds of nonprofit community benefit organizations; and

**WHEREAS,** national and community service expands economic opportunity by creating sustainable, resilient communities, and provides career skills and leadership opportunities for those who serve, and;

**WHEREAS**, national and community service is a unique public-private partnership that invests in local solutions and leverages non-federal resources to increase the return on taxpayer dollars.

**NOW, THEREFORE, DO I,** Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim the month of April 2017 to be

## BELLINGHAM VOLUNTEER MONTH

In the City of Bellingham, Washington and encourage residents to recognize the positive impact of volunteerism in our city, to thank those who serve and to find ways to give back to their communities.



Signed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017

Juli Cim

Kelli Linville, Mayor City of Bellingham