



Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, healthy kidneys are essential to regulate the body, remove fluids, waste, toxins and drugs introduced to the body, release hormones that regulate blood pressure, make red blood cells and promote strong bones; and

WHEREAS, diabetes, high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, a family history of kidney disease, and being 60 years of age or older are all factors that increase the risk of developing kidney disease; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Kidney Foundation, and the Mount Baker Foundation, approximately 30 million Americans have chronic kidney disease, and most do not know it; 1 in 3 American adults are at risk of kidney disease; chronic kidney disease is a public health issue, and

WHEREAS, when left untreated, chronic kidney disease and kidney damage lead to end-stage kidney disease, requiring dialysis or transplantation to sustain life; and

WHEREAS, by calling attention to the importance of education and patient self-empowerment with regard to chronic kidney disease within our community, we hope to improve the quality and availability of such information and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, do we, Seth Fleetwood, Mayor of the City Bellingham and Satpal Sidhu, Executive of Whatcom County, hereby jointly proclaim the month of March 2021 as:

BELLINGHAM - WHATCOM COUNTY KIDNEY AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County, and encourage all citizens to support observances that raise public awareness concerning crucial health issues, such as chronic kidney disease, and urge anyone who is at high risk to seek early screening.

Signed this 16th day of February, 2021

Handwritten signature of Seth Fleetwood in blue ink.

Seth Fleetwood, Mayor
City of Bellingham

Handwritten signature of Satpal Singh Sidhu in blue ink.

Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive
Whatcom County

