



Proclamation



WHEREAS, The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides a comprehensive system of care that includes primary medical care and essential support services for people living with HIV who are uninsured or underinsured; and,

WHEREAS, The Ryan White program, works with cities, states, and local community-based organizations to provide HIV care and treatment services to more than half a million people each year, there are many things yet to be done; and,

WHEREAS, The Ryan White Program reaches approximately 52% of all people diagnosed with HIV in the United States. As of 2017, Care Innovations, the HIV division of CareSouth Carolina, Inc., treats 170 patients; and,

WHEREAS, women and children around the world are particularly vulnerable due to gender inequalities, gaps in access to services and increases in sexual violence; and,

WHEREAS, expanded access to HIV testing, diagnosis and treatment can help reduce the suffering from this entirely preventable disease; and,

WHEREAS, the theme for Ryan White Awareness Day, "Educate One. Educate a Nation." reminds us that we must continue to work diligently and collaboratively to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Carl M. (Mel) Pennington IV, Mayor, do hereby proclaim February 17, as

"RYAN WHITE AWARENESS DAY"

in the City of Hartsville and urge everyone to remember those who have lost their lives to HIV/AIDS and to help support and comfort those living with this disease.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the seal of the City of Hartsville.

Carl M. (Mel) Pennington IV, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sherron L. Skipper, City Clerk