



Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, the nation's community health centers provide innovative, high-quality, affordable health care to more than 25 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, community health centers are bending the health care cost curve, producing \$24 billion in annual health system savings, reducing unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits, and serving more than one in six Medicaid beneficiaries for less than 2 percent of the national Medicaid budget; and

WHEREAS, community health centers serve some of the country's most underserved populations and communities while maintaining patient satisfaction rates of nearly 100 percent; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County's two community health centers, Unity Care NW and Sea Mar Community Health Centers, together provided integrated primary medical, dental, behavioral health, and pharmacy services to one of every six Whatcom County residents, and;

WHEREAS, our local community health centers work collaboratively to address some of our most pressing health issues, including addiction, homelessness, food insecurity, and access to dental care; and

WHEREAS, community health centers have enjoyed a tradition of bipartisan support for over 50 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, DO WE, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive, do hereby proclaim August 13-19, 2017 to be

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County.

Signed this 10th day of July, 2017

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham

Jack Louws, County Executive
County of Whatcom

