

CITY OF SPOKANE



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare (each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans) in the United States, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH); while each of these diseases may affect small numbers of people, rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million Americans; many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS, while more than 450 drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), millions of Americans still have rare diseases for which there is no approved treatment; individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and lack of access to treatments or ancillary services; while the public is familiar with some rare diseases, many patients and families affected by less widely known rare diseases bear a large share of the burden of funding research and raising public awareness to support the search for treatments; and

WHEREAS, residents of Spokane are among those affected by rare diseases because nearly one in 10 Americans have rare diseases; the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Day on February 28, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the citizens of Spokane, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2020, as

RARE DISEASE DAY

in Spokane, in participation of the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)'s nationwide observance.

I, Nadine Woodward, Mayor of Spokane,
do hereunto set my hand and
cause the seal of the City of Spokane
to be affixed this
10th day of February in 2020.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, reading "Nadine Woodward", is written over the printed name and title.

Nadine Woodward
Mayor

