



EL PASO COUNTY
STATE OF TEXAS

RESOLUTION



WHEREAS, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, and liver disease caused by these viruses, are urgent global concerns, where an estimated 400 million people worldwide have the disease and approximately 1.3 million people worldwide die each year due to hepatitis; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, El Paso County had over 800 cases of Hepatitis where the majority are Hepatitis C cases that usually do not have any symptoms; and

WHEREAS, Between 2015 and 2020, the United States will spend an estimated \$136 million on Hepatitis C drugs and approximately 45 percent of which will come from the government; and

WHEREAS, Hepatitis C is 10 times more infectious than HIV and Hepatitis B is 50 to 100 times more infectious than HIV. An estimated 33 percent of people who live in the United States and are infected with HIV are also infected with Hepatitis B or C; and

WHEREAS, The goals of “World Hepatitis Day” are to:

- (1) Highlight the global nature of chronic viral Hepatitis epidemics;
- (2) Recognize that Hepatitis can be prevented and eliminated in part through a comprehensive public education and awareness campaign designed to identify those at risk for, and living with, Hepatitis;
- (3) Inform patients about new treatments that are available for Hepatitis; and
- (4) Help increase the length and quality of life for people diagnosed with chronic Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C infections; and

WHEREAS, The Hepatitis Zero Week is the largest campaign in the world and is taking place simultaneously in 50 countries. The tests will be carried out from July 20th to August 4th; and

WHEREAS, The Zaragoza Rotary Club in El Paso, Texas carried out a rapid Hepatitis C event testing for men and woman over the age of 40 on July 27th, 2019. Over 200 residents participated in the event, where the club seeks to break the silence that exists about the disease, diagnosing people who have the virus, but who are unaware of the situation they are in.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the El Paso County Commissioners Court that July 28, 2019 is recognized as:

World Hepatitis Day

SIGNED, this 29th day of July 2019

Commissioner Carlos Leon, Pct. 1

Commissioner David Stout, Pct. 2

Commissioner Vincent M. Perez, Pct. 3

Commissioner Carl L. Robinson, Pct. 4

Ricardo A. Samaniego, County Judge