

Proclamation declaring November as Diabetes Awareness Month

Whereas diabetes affects 29.1 million people — 9.3% of the population in the United States — and is a serious disease for which there is no known cure. It is also the seventh leading cause of death by disease in the United States; and

Whereas approximately one quarter of the Americans who have diabetes, 8.1 million (27.8%) people don't know they have the disease and may experience damage to the heart, eyes, kidneys, and limbs without producing any symptoms; and

Whereas studies show the Rio Grande Valley has a higher rate of diabetes than the rest of Texas. Since 2011, the rate of diabetes locally has gone down by 11% but remains a health concern; and

Whereas another 86 million, or 1 in 3 American adults, has pre-diabetes, a condition which puts them at greater risk for developing Type 2 diabetes, and if current trends continue, 1 in 3 American adults will have diabetes by 2050; and

Whereas diabetes has many faces, affecting everyone, young and old alike — Caucasians, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders — with minority populations in the United States having an increased risk for developing the disease; and

Whereas increase in community awareness of risk factors and symptoms related to diabetes can improve the likelihood that people with diabetes will get the attention they need before suffering the devastating complications of this disease.

Now therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim the month of November as Diabetes Awareness Month and encourages all citizens to help fight this disease and its deadly complications, including heart and kidney disease, stroke, blindness, and amputation, by increasing awareness of risk factors for diabetes, by making healthy lifestyle choices and by providing support to those suffering from diabetes.

Approved this 2nd day of November 2021.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk