

Resolution



ORDER NO: 2023-0178

DATE: February 21, 2023

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 18th day of February 21, 2023, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by Dr. Elba Garcia, Commissioner of District 4, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, Each year we observe the month of February as American Heart Month. Heart disease has long been the leading cause of death in the United States for all ages, genders, and ethnicities. Cardiovascular disease, overall, includes coronary heart disease, stroke, heart failure and hypertension/high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, According to the 2023 statistical report from the American Heart Association the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic saw a steep rise in cardiovascular disease deaths in the U.S. Cardiovascular disease-related deaths jumped from 874,613 in 2019 to 928,741 in 2020, the largest single-year increase since 2015. The number of deaths surpassed the previous high of 910,000 in 2003.; and

WHEREAS, The 2023 American Heart Association report also stated that COVID-19 had a significant impact on people of all ages and races in the U.S.; however, Hispanic, Asian, and Black communities were often impacted to a greater degree. The burden of cardiovascular risk factors, such as hypertension and obesity, is similarly high among these populations. As a result, Asian, Black, and Hispanic communities also experienced the largest increases in cardiovascular-related deaths, thereby further reducing the life expectancy rates in these individuals and increasing the disparity between them and white communities. The 2022 Dallas County Community Health Needs Assessment reported that since 2000, Black/African American, non-Hispanics have had the highest heart disease mortality rate in Dallas County; and

WHEREAS, CDC's Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention highlights the importance of preventing cardiovascular disease across all ages. Cardiovascular disease mortality rates are on the rise among younger populations. This is partly because the conditions that lead to heart disease are happening at younger ages. High rates of obesity and high blood pressure among younger people (ages 35–64) are putting them at risk for heart disease earlier in life. Other risk factors include high cholesterol, smoking, diabetes, and excessive alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, Although men are more at risk of having a heart attack than women, cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of women causing one in three deaths in the United States every year, higher than all forms of cancer deaths in women combined; and

WHEREAS, The 2022 Dallas County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) reported that heart disease is the leading cause of death in Dallas County and 14% of the population 65 years and older have heart disease. The 2021 Parkland Hypertension registry listed 113,623 patients. Hypertension is among the most common risk factors for heart disease. Of those listed 40% were African American and 44% were Hispanic; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court, in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke, do hereby proclaim February 2023 to be **AMERICAN HEART MONTH** in Dallas County and urge all citizens to show their support for the fight against heart disease. By increasing awareness, speaking out about heart disease, and empowering others to reduce their risk for cardiovascular diseases, we can save thousands of lives each year.

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 21st day of February, 2023


Clay Lewis Jenkins
County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel
Commissioner, District 1


Andrew Sommerman
Commissioner, District 2


John Wiley Price
Commissioner, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia
Commissioner, District 4