

PROCLAMATION

MISSOULA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MISSOULA, MONTANA

WHEREAS, Missoula County and the City of Missoula acknowledges the lasting impacts of the homophobia and transphobia highlighted by acts of physical, mental, emotional and institutional violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and two spirit (LGBTQIA+ and 2S) people and communities both within the United States and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Missoula County and the City of Missoula have diverse LGBTQIA+ and 2S communities and are committed to supporting the safety, visibility, dignity and equality of all our community members; and

WHEREAS, on June 24 and 28, 1969, the New York Police Department conducted a pair of raids on Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar in Greenwich Village, citing anti-LGBTQIA+ and 2S legislation such as masquerade laws to arrest patrons and workers; and

WHEREAS, these raids sparked neighborhood resistance known as the Stonewall Uprising, led by transgender and lesbian activists such as Marsha “Pay It No Mind” Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, Stormé DeLarverie, Miss Major and many other transgender women of color, that served as a catalyst for the movement toward LGBTQIA+ and 2S rights and equity; and

WHEREAS, the courage and bravery of these activists in the face of violence served as a rallying call in the United States for greater movement toward LGBTQIA+ and 2S rights, equality and equity; and

WHEREAS, while advancements have been made in regard to policy change and more equitable treatment of LGBTQIA+ and 2S persons throughout the nation, there continues to be discrimination and violence against people in these communities, making it essential for local governments to collectively take action to support community members who are impacted; and

WHEREAS, June is celebrated as LGBTQIA+ and 2S Pride Month nationwide; and

WHEREAS, all members of our community should be able to live without fear of prejudice, discrimination, violence and hatred based on gender identity, expression or sexual orientation.

NOW THEREFORE, Missoula County and the City of Missoula do hereby declare the month of June 2023 as LGBTQIA+ and 2S


PRIDE MONTH

and invite all citizens to observe this month with programs, ceremonies, and activities in the community and by visiting www.missoula-pride.com.

CITY OF MISSOULA


Jordan Hess, Mayor

COUNTY OF MISSOULA


Josh Slotnick, Chair


David Strohmer, Commissioner


Juana Vero, Commissioner

