

Office of the Mayor  
City of Fayetteville  
**Proclamation**



**WHEREAS:** the Northwest Arkansas Free Health Center was founded by Jessie Bryant in 1986 with one volunteer physician, Dr. Liz Rantz, as a way to serve the uninsured, low-income residents of southeast Fayetteville, and

**WHEREAS:** originally located in the basement of St. James Methodist Church, the increasing demand for services resulted in relocation to the basement of the armory building south of the Historic Washington County Courthouse in 1988 and then to the main floor of that building in the mid-1990's, and

**WHEREAS:** in 2000 the NWAFFHC had a budget of \$60,000 with 2 part-time staff, was open about 8 hours per week, and recorded 2,000 patient visits. By 2012, the Center provided 13,489 patient visits, was open 33 hours a week with 102 medical volunteers, 8 part-time and 2 full time employees with a budget of \$645,000, and

**WHEREAS:** on January 15, 2013, NWAFFHC moved into its new 10,000 sq. ft. space on Woolsey Avenue, expanding from 3 to 6 medical exam rooms, from 3 to 6 dental rooms, increasing hours of operation to 36 hours per week, and they are on target in 2016 to provide over 20,000 total patient visits, and

**WHEREAS:** in September 2015, the Center's name was changed to WelcomeHealth, signifying that *everyone* is welcome and will be treated with dignity and respect regardless of their ability to pay, and

**WHEREAS:** now celebrating 30 years of service to our community, WelcomeHealth serves the underinsured and the insured with state-of-the-art equipment and professional staff and volunteers, and

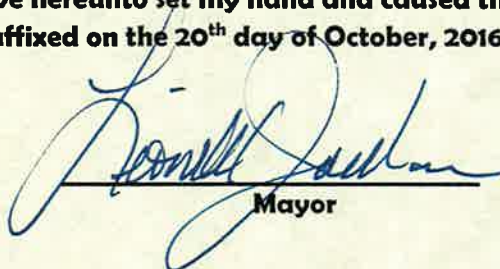
**WHEREAS:** the City of Fayetteville is honored to help celebrate this anniversary with WelcomeHealth and to express our appreciation for the services provided to our citizens throughout the past 30 years and for many years to come,

**NOW THEREFORE, I, Lioneld Jordan, Mayor of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas do hereby proclaim October 20 through 22, 2016 as**


***"WELCOME HEALTH 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY DAYS"***

in Fayetteville, Arkansas and encourage all citizens to join me in celebrating this organization and thanking them for the services they provide to our community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas to be affixed on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.**

  
Mayor

Attest:



City Clerk

