King County

City of Seattle

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, King County comprises 220,000 residents age 65 or older, including 67,000 who live in Seattle, who have contributed and sacrificed to ensure a better life for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle and King County are committed to helping all individuals live longer, healthier lives in the communities of their choice for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle, King County, and United Way of King County collaborate as sponsors of Aging and Disability Services (ADS), the Area Agency on Aging for King County; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, the Older Americans Act has provided services through Area Agencies on Aging that help older adults remain healthy and independent by complementing existing medical and health care systems, helping prevent hospital readmissions, and supporting some of life's most basic functions, such as bathing or preparing meals; and

WHEREAS, these programs also support family caregivers, address issues of exploitation, neglect and abuse of older adults, and adapt services to the needs of Native American elders; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the value of community engagement and service in helping older adults remain healthy and active while giving back to others; and

WHEREAS, our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social inclusion.
- Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living.
- Ensuring community members of all ages benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, we proclaim May 2015 to be

Older Americans Month in Seattle and King County

We urge public officials, businesses, neighborhood organizations, volunteers, and all the people of Seattle and King County, Washington to take time this month to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act. We further urge everyone to celebrate the contributions and sacrifices of the older adults—and the people who serve and support them—as powerful and vital contributors to our community.

Dated this 24 day of April, 2015

Dow Constantine, King County Executive

Ed Murray, Mayor of Seattle