



## Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 691 babies in the United States is born with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 400,000 people living with Down syndrome in the United States; and

WHEREAS, while research and early intervention have resulted in dramatic improvements in the lifespan and potential of those who are affected, more investigation is needed in the causes and treatment of Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, people with Down syndrome possess a wide range of abilities, and are active participants in educational, occupational, social, and recreational circles of the community; and

WHEREAS, developed by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1985, the Buddy Walk of Whatcom County is coordinated by Down Syndrome Outreach, a program of The Arc of Whatcom County, celebrating the accomplishments of children and adults with Down syndrome; and

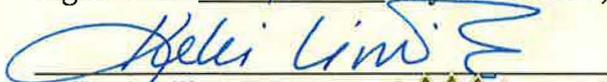
WHEREAS, the Buddy Walk also promotes acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome, while raising funds for local programs and issues regarding education advocacy and awareness.

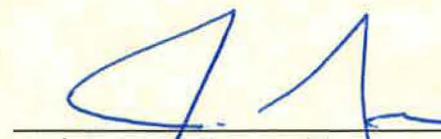
NOW, THEREFORE, do we, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive, do hereby proclaim October 5, 2013 as

### DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

throughout Whatcom County and encourage all citizens to work together to promote awareness of Down syndrome and to celebrate the accomplishments of these individuals and their families.

Signed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2013.

  
Kelli Linville, Mayor  
City of Bellingham

  
Jack Louws, County Executive  
Whatcom County

