New Bedford to participate in "World AIDS Day" on November 29

The Annual World AIDS Day commemoration will be Thursday, November 29, 2018, with a candlelight vigil starting at 5:30 p.m. at New Bedford City Hall. We will then proceed to 634 Purchase St. New Bedford for light refreshments with a program to follow at the Pilgrim United Church of Christ 635 Purchase St. New Bedford, MA We hope you will join us in honoring the spirit of this campaign.

Everyone is welcome to attend this free community event! Please join us in this initiative and to continue the educational efforts to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. We all have the power to raise awareness, but collectively we have the power to change the world!

The theme this year is "U=U" Undetectable =Untransmittable. The local Community of Organizations/ Providers that work tirelessly behind the scenes to slow the spread of HIV have adopted "U=U" as this is the global theme for World AIDS Day 2018. This simple, yet effective, theme sends a clear message of the collaborative human effort needed to rise above HIV/AIDS. The U=U message is an unprecedented opportunity to transform the lives of millions of people with and affected by HIV and to radically transform the field:

- Improves the lives of people living with HIV by dramatically reducing the shame and fear of sexual transmission and opening up possibilities for conceiving children without alternative means of insemination.
- Dismantles HIV stigma on the community, clinical, and personal level.
- Encourages people living with HIV to start and stay on treatment, which keeps them and their partners healthy.

• Strengthens advocacy efforts for universal access to treatment, care, and diagnostics to save lives and bring us closer to ending the epidemic.