



Commissioner Nick Fish
City of Portland

December 3, 2018

Thank you, Tyler for the warm introduction.

I'm honored to join you today and to accept the Heroes of HIV award on behalf of the City of Portland.

I want to acknowledge and thank my colleagues who are here today: Mayor Ted Wheeler and Commissioner Amanda Fritz. Commissioner Chloe Eudaly is home sick.

CAP is a Portland treasure. We are so proud of the work you are doing in our community:

- Advocating for a cure for HIV/AIDS
- Serving people living with HIV/AIDS
- Opposing discrimination in all its ugly forms.

Because of your work, Portland is a healthier, more welcoming and inclusive community.

CAP's values are the City of Portland's values.

That's why we are so proud that the City contributed to the PRISM Health Center with a special appropriation. PRISM is the first specialized healthcare facility in the state for the LGBTQ+ community. And it fills a critically important role in our city.

I want to close with a personal story about my healthcare journey.

About 460 days ago, I was diagnosed with cancer. Cancer, like HIV/AIDS, doesn't discriminate. And while my treatment is progressing well, I now have a pre-existing condition. So, when Senators are debating limiting care

to people with pre-existing conditions, they are talking about me. And Tyler, and many of you.

We must not allow anyone in our community to be treated as a second-class citizen. And we must protect the rights of all community members.

Thank you, Cascade AIDS for this great honor. We look forward to continuing our strong partnership.

Thank you.