

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY PROCLAMATION

Treatment Court Month – May 2024

WHEREAS, amidst a rising fentanyl crisis, increasing fatal overdose rates, and an ongoing mental health crisis, drug courts and other therapeutic courts are an important part of an effective statewide continuum of care for individuals with behavioral health disorders; and

WHEREAS, drug courts and other treatment courts are dedicated to preserving families and supporting individuals with substance use disorders and other behavioral health disorders in transforming their lives; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts work with Washington State Department of Social and Health Services reporting 75 percent of drug court participants have no new felonies at 36-month follow-up and Washington Institute for Public Policy concluding drug courts produce a return-on-investment 100 percent of the time; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts counter systemic racism by preventing incarceration and loss of parental rights for people of color who are disproportionately represented within the criminal, legal and child welfare systems; and

WHEREAS, people are resilient and capable of change when provided the right combination of support, resources, structure, and accountability to support long-term recovery; and


WHEREAS, treatment courts create safer, healthier communities that benefit us all by intervening to reduce behavioral health symptoms, decrease overdose deaths, support participants in obtaining housing and gainful employment, and prevent children from entering foster care; and

WHEREAS, Washington State has been a national leader in addressing crime and child neglect driven by behavioral health conditions, funding and supporting some of the earliest treatment courts in the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Grays Harbor County Board of Commissioners that the Month of May 2024 is Treatment Court Month in Grays Harbor County.

DATED this 7th day of May, 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY



Kevin Pine, Chair, District 2



Jill Warne, District 1



Vickie Raines, District 3

ATTEST:



Wendy Chatham, Clerk of the Board

Date: 05-07-24