

CITY OF SPOKANE



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, therapeutic courts improve both public health and public safety, using evidence-based practices to support individuals and families affected by substance use and other behavioral health conditions in making long-term changes that create safer, healthier communities and benefits us all; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services found that cost savings due to crime reductions created a return of \$4.00 for every tax dollar invested in a Washington state drug court, and analyses of mental health courts and family treatment courts in Washington state have shown savings from reduced recidivism, lower rates of hospitalization, fewer emergency department visits, less involvement in the child welfare system, and fewer children born drug affected; and

WHEREAS, therapeutic court participants and alumni create positive ripple effects in their communities, inspiring hope and giving back as productive employees, present parents, good neighbors, dedicated mentors, and effective role models for others in recovery; and

WHEREAS, therapeutic courts provide the treatment, case management, peer support, judicial oversight, comprehensive resources, structure, expectations, and accountability that address root causes of criminal behavior, child abuse and neglect and support long-term recovery; and

WHEREAS, Washington State is a national leader in creating meaningful pathways out of the legal system and towards recovery and family reunification, having supported some of the earliest therapeutic courts in the country, with these innovative courts now operating in nearly every county and at every court level:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lisa Brown, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the people of Spokane, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as

THERAPEUTIC COURT MONTH

in Spokane and urge all residents to join me in recognizing the important work of therapeutic courts.

I, Lisa Brown, Mayor of Spokane,
do hereunto set my hand and
cause the seal of the City of Spokane
to be affixed this
24th day of April 2025.

Lisa Brown

Lisa Brown
Mayor

