~PROCLAMATION~

Whereas, Clark County Therapeutic Specialty Courts have been in existence for 20 years allowing individuals the chance to repair their lives, reunite with families and find long-term recovery; and

Whereas, Clark County Therapeutic Specialty Courts now include Felony Drug Court, Substance Abuse Court, Mental Health Court, Juvenile Recovery Court, Family Treatment Court, Residential DOSA Drug Court, Veterans Court, and DUI Court; and

Whereas, Drug courts are now recognized as one of the most successful criminal justice intervention programs in our nation's history; and

Whereas, Drug courts save an average of \$6,000 for every individual served and in just the past two years, \$3.65 million of incarceration costs have been saved in the Drug Court program alone; and

Whereas, Over the last 20 years, a total of 1,663 individuals have successfully graduated from one of the Clark County Therapeutic Courts; and

Whereas, Therapeutic Courts significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes, substantially reduce addiction and related crime, and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy as well as help veterans return home, make our communities safer and reunite more families.

Whereas, Drug Courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health professionals; and

Whereas, Drug Courts demonstrate that when one person rises out of substance use and crime, we all rise.

Now therefore, this Clark County Council hereby proclaims the month of May 2019, as

~Drug Court Month~

in Clark County, Washington, and recognizes the significant contributions drug courts make to reducing substance abuse, crime and recidivism while saving valuable community resources.

Signed this 7th day of May 2019

CLARK COUNTY COUNCIL FOR CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Eileen Quiring, Chair

Temple Lentz, District 1

Julie Olson, District 2

John Blom, District 3

Gary Medvigy, District 4