



Therapeutic Court Association of Washington  
Washington Association of Drug Courts  
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## WSADCP / WADC 2025 Accomplishments & Happenings

### Training / Promoting Best Practices

**WSADCP Conference:** In partnership with All Rise, HCA, and AOC, hosted 2-day in person Therapeutic Court Conference “Power of Recovery: Stories, Strategies, and Support” with a keynote and trainings by national and local experts. Approximately 350 attendees representing at least 7 therapeutic court models, every court level, 26 Washington counties, and 1 tribal nation.

#### **National Collaboration:**

- Provided input to All Rise on therapeutic court needs, interests, and happenings through attendance at quarterly Council on State Treatment Court Association (CSTCA) meetings.
- Hosted Conference presentation on “Recovery Capital Implementation and Use in a Therapeutic Court Setting” by Snohomish County Adult Recovery Court team members as the culmination of their participation in a national recovery capital pilot program with All Rise.

#### **Washington State Deflection & Diversion Summit:**

- Four WSADCP Board members attended the 1<sup>st</sup> statewide Deflection and Diversion Summit to ensure therapeutic courts were represented at the gathering.
- Board developed a presentation on “Therapeutic Courts: An Effective Part of the Community Deflection & Diversion Continuum” which was presented as a workshop by two members.
- Board member presented on “The Strength of Lived Experience: Supporting Court System-Involved Individuals with Peer Support” as part of WSTCAA.

#### **Website:**

- 2025 WSADCP Conference workshop slides available on website as a resource following the conference.
- Maintained “[Foundational Resources](#)” page of WSADCP website to serve as a resource for therapeutic court professionals with info about best practices and trainings by role and by court type: Community Courts, Family Treatment Courts / Collaborative Courts, Impaired Driving Courts, Juvenile Treatment Courts, Mental Health Courts, Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts, and Veterans Courts.
- When links to historical therapeutic court resources became unavailable on websites for some national organizations in 2025, WSADCP saved and uploaded direct PDFs to maintain a comprehensive resource library.
- Re-design work completed to launch refreshed website with streamlined resource pages in 2026.

## **Equity and Inclusion:**

- Several Board members participated in the statewide Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R.E.D.) Working Group facilitated by Washington AOC and the national Center for Justice Innovation.
- Compiled an updated Equity and Inclusion resources document for therapeutic courts, including direct links to historical PDFs.

## **Cultivating Connections & Statewide Partnerships**

- WSADCP hosted a “Meet the Board” lunch at the WSADCP Conference as an open forum for attendees to learn about WSADCP/WADC’s Strategic Plan and upcoming rebranding to the Therapeutic Court Association of Washington, network with Board members and therapeutic court colleagues, and share challenges, opportunities, and input on priorities from their courts/regions.
- In partnership with AOC, WSADCP hosted a gathering for Washington State therapeutic court professionals at the national Rise25 Conference in Orlando, an opportunity to connect with and build professional networks.
- Continued partnership with HCA and AOC through their attendance and sharing at monthly Board meetings and the annual Board Retreat.

## **Alumni:**

- Added “Alumni Update” as recurring topic for monthly Board meeting agenda as part of commitment to strengthen knowledge and support for the work of Washington State therapeutic court alumni.
- Provided 10 scholarships for therapeutic court alumni to attend WSADCP conference through the generous sponsorship of HCA.
- Maintained an alumni gathering space at WSADCP Conference exclusively for alumni, peers, and people with lived experience.

## **Role-Based Gatherings at WSADCP Conference:**

- Washington State Therapeutic Court Alumni Association (WSTCAA) hosted an alumni meeting as an opportunity for alumni to connect during a workshop session at WSADCP Conference.
- The District and Municipal Judges Association (DMCJA) hosted an in-person lunchtime gathering to discuss funding needs and strategic planning for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction.
- AOC hosted a Therapeutic Court Coordinators meeting which included a presentation on the 10 Key Components of Therapeutic Courts and information about upcoming opportunities for learning and connection, including AOC’s Best Practice Book Club.

## **Promoting Therapeutic Courts**

### **Therapeutic Court Month:**

- At the request of WSADCP, Governor Ferguson proclaimed May 2025 as Therapeutic Court Month.

- WSADCP emailed all WA State legislators with the Therapeutic Court Month proclamation, thanking them for supporting therapeutic courts and inviting their attendance at drug court graduations in their district.
- WSADCP shared proclamation with therapeutic court coordinators/teams as a model to obtain local proclamations. At least 8 counties/cities obtained 2025 Therapeutic Court Month proclamations (Clark, Grays Harbor, King, Lewis, Pierce/Tacoma, Snohomish, Spokane, and Thurston). WSADCP featured local proclamations and Therapeutic Court Month events on website.
- Throughout the year, highlighted accomplishments, news and stories from therapeutic courts across the state on the [Newsworthy](#) page of our website.
- Created a photobooth at WSADCP Conference to encourage therapeutic court teams to take photos together and make social media posts.

## **Legislative**

### **Lobbying/Consulting:**

- Navigated a complete transition in lobbying/consulting services without the intended hand-off/collaboration period after the sudden passing of the association's longtime lobbyist.
- Represented by Stewart Government Affairs for lobbying and consulting work in 2025. Signed contract to continue services in 2026.

**Legislative Committee:** Formed and began meeting monthly with the association lobbyist.

### **Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA):**

- CJTA was fully appropriated in the state budget, with 2026-2027 biennial funding streamlined at WADC's request to remove additional restrictions and separate tracking requirement for the \$9 million restored therapeutic court carveout funds.
- Sent a representative to every CJTA Panel meeting in 2025.
- After HCA expressed an intention to revise the formula for distribution of CJTA funds to counties/BH-ASOs by July 2027, WSADCP worked with five other Panel member organizations to send a letter to HCA outlining questions about the catalyst for the revision and outlining concerns about the process and timing.

**Recovery Navigator Program (RNP):** After the Senate proposed a budget that eliminated funding for RNP, met with LEAD to provide input and discuss collaboration on support for RNP. WADC drafted and sent a letter of support for RNP to the Speaker and shared it with LEAD, urging that RNP be fully funded in the budget. The RNP program was saved from elimination but experienced a 20% cut in the final budget.

### **WA State Legislator Outreach:**

- Several legislators have attended Drug Court graduation celebrations and/or court hearings in-person including Rep. Jake Fey (Pierce County), Sen. Tina Orwall (King County) and Rep. Chris Stearns (King County).
- Stewart Government Affairs arranged one-on-one meetings with Board representatives and various legislators to share information about therapeutic court priorities and upcoming legislative session.

**Council for State Treatment Court Association (CSTCA):** A representative attended national CSTCA meetings, convened by the All Rise Associate Director of Legislative Affairs, to stay up-to-date on national happenings and provide information and input specific to Washington State.

## **Sustaining / Strategic Planning & Recognition**

### **WSADCP Rebrand:**

- WSADCP made the decision to rebrand to “Therapeutic Court Association of Washington (TCA of WA)” beginning in 2026. The announcement was made at the 2025 WSADCP Conference and was well-received.
- Obtained state license to reflect that WSADCP will be “doing business as” TCA of WA.
- TCA of WA logo designed and adopted with Board and alumni input.
- Extensive re-design work to launch refreshed website for TCA of WA rebrand rollout.
- Plan created to launch TCA of WA Facebook page with 2026 rebrand rollout.
- Rebrand Workgroup oversaw planning for TCA of WA rollout, including messaging.

**Strategic Planning:** 2025-2029 Strategic Plan developed and shared at WSADCP Conference.

### **Board Transition & Recruitment:**

- New members joined:
  - Prosecutor – Annie Chau (Benton County)
  - Coordinator – Angie Hutton (Clark County)
  - Coordinator – Janice Riley (Kitsap County)
  - Defense – Sara Alavi (Pierce County)
- Board departures:
  - Law Enforcement – Chief Cobb (Yakima County / Union Gap)

**Recognition:** WSADCP/WADC honored three of its founding members with a Lifetime Achievement Award – Dr. Steve Freng, Dr. Terree Schmidt-Whelan, and Judge Ken Williams (ret.) in recognition of their leadership in the development of therapeutic courts in Washington State and their ongoing work to promote best practices and sustain high-quality therapeutic courts.

### **Financial:**

- Finance Committee created.
- Work and discussion re: how to sustain WSADCP/WADC resulted in slight dues increase in 2025.
- Along with contributions from AOC and HCA, WSADCP Conference obtained sponsorship - 22 sponsors and exhibitors - which assisted in making the WSADCP Conference possible.