



MAY IS THERAPEUTIC COURT MONTH!

By: Britta Harrison

Treatment Court Month is a nationwide celebration of lifesaving treatment courts. Here in Washington, these programs are called Therapeutic courts, and Kitsap County Therapeutic Courts are proud to join more than 4,000 courts across the country to celebrate leading people out of the justice system and into long-term recovery.

Kitsap County has Proclaimed [May as Therapeutic Court Month!](#)

This year, Kitsap County District Court has partnered with Kitsap Parks Department to organize a park clean-up service project for participants and the therapeutic court community. In addition, the Kitsap County Drug Court Alumni Association has scheduled events all month long to celebrate Therapeutic Court Month.

Judge Jay Roof, who was key in bringing Drug Court and thus therapeutic courts to Kitsap back in 2000, said *" I feel like a proud father or grandfather watching the therapeutic court community grow. And I've said it before, the alumni and participants are the heroes. Without their dedication and commitment, it wouldn't have been successful."*

The Kitsap County Drug Court Alumni Association continues to uphold its mission of supporting current participants, graduates, and their families as they work toward lasting, healthy lifestyle changes. Through recovery events, meetings, activities, and community service, the Association promotes long-term recovery and strengthens connections within the therapeutic court community. Their dedication to mentorship, fellowship, and ongoing support is reflected in events like these that honor and celebrate Therapeutic Court Month. For more information about the Alumni Association, please visit their webpage at [Kitsap County Drug Court Alumni](#).

Here in Kitsap County, there are numerous therapeutic courts. Kitsap County District Court offers Behavioral Health Court and THRIVE court. Superior Court offers Drug Court, Veteran's Court, and specialty courts for juveniles. There is also Bremerton Municipal Community Court. All these therapeutic courts serve different populations and work with specialized treatment that addresses their unique needs. Therapeutic courts like ours differ from traditional courts because we invite treatment providers to be a part of the team. They ensure each person in the program receives an individualized, evidence-based treatment plan, and they work

together with the judge, defense attorneys, prosecutors, and compliance specialists to provide ongoing support and accountability.

Our therapeutic courts also make it a priority to learn from the people who move through our programs. Participants and graduates regularly share what has helped them, what challenges they have faced, and how the program has shaped their lives. One recent graduate of the Kitsap County District Court Thrive Court program reflected on their journey:


"Instead of seeing my future dark, lonely, and possibly fatal, I now see a future full of possibilities, opportunity, love, support, and happiness. I have goals today - something I once lacked. My long-term goals include continuing my education at Olympic College and graduating with a degree in Human Services. I want to help others who have experienced struggles similar to mine and show them that there is hope and that healing is possible. I also want to be the best mother possible to my beautiful, deserving children. Above all, I want to become who I was meant to be and live as the best version of myself."



This story is just 1 of the 100s of graduates that shows the work we are doing in Kitsap and that these programs improve educational outcomes, employment stability, housing security, and family reunification. By strengthening these core areas of a person's life, therapeutic courts support long-term stability and promote healthier, more resilient families and communities.

As we celebrate Therapeutic Court Month, we recognize the dedication of our participants, graduates, families, treatment providers, court staff, and community partners who make this work possible. The progress we see in Kitsap County reflects a shared commitment to accountability, compassion, and evidence-based support. Together, we are building pathways to recovery, strengthening families, and creating safer, healthier communities. Kitsap County is proud to stand with thousands of therapeutic courts nationwide in honoring the lives changed and the hope restored through these programs.

More Upcoming events for Therapeutic Court Month With Kitsap County Drug Court Alumni!



Alumni
BOWLING
& Fun

SATURDAY
23 MAY
3-5 PM

\$20 ENTRY includes shoes & 2 hours of bowling

HI JOY BOWL
1011 Bethel Ave
Port Orchard
98366

KITSAP COUNTY DRUG COURT ALUMNI
REACHING OUT. GIVING BACK.

everyone welcome

KCDCAA will cover the cost for Therapeutic court participants who need assistance.



KITSAP COUNTY DRUG COURT ALUMNI
REACHING OUT. GIVING BACK.

Let's
Walk

"Big Tree Trail"
Sunday May 17th


3000 Seabeck Hwy NW
Bremerton, WA 98312

Meet at 1 pm
at the Trailhead

1.1-mile loop trail
Easy route