

**PROCLAMATION FOR
DRUG COURT AWARENESS MONTH – MAY 2019**

WHEREAS, 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of **Treatment Courts**. There are now more than 3,000 treatment courts nationwide, and treatment courts are the cornerstone of justice reform sweeping the nation. **Treatment Courts** across the country have served 1.5 million individuals and save an average of \$6,000 for every individual they serve; and

WHEREAS, **Treatment Courts** are now recognized as the most successful justice system intervention in our nation's history because they have proven to 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; and

WHEREAS, The **52nd District Court, 4th Division**, has recognized the value of the treatment court model since 2001, the year in which the inaugural session took place under the direction and leadership of **retired Judge Dennis Drury and Program Coordinator Patricia Bates**; and

WHEREAS, Since 2001 the **52-4 District Court** has maintained a strong and successful Drug Therapy Court program, which continues to provide a valuable resource to its participants and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, **Judge Kirsten Nielsen Hartig and Judge Maureen McGinnis** continue to lead the program at the **52-4 District Court** and dedicate countless additional hours to their daily workload to ensure that the program meets the highest expectations and best practices; and

WHEREAS, Each **Drug Court Team** at the **52-4 District Court** accomplishes as much as they do because they have the benefit of a number of dedicated, compassionate team members that bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to every meeting to ensure that the needs of the participants are met, that the program remains on the cutting edge for treatment, and that public safety continues to remain a high priority throughout the treatment process; and

WHEREAS, The **Drug Therapy Court** program has been able to successfully support individuals suffering from substance use disorders so that they can receive the treatment they desperately need, maintain long term sobriety and become positive contributing members to our community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **City Council of the City of Troy, hereby recognizes May 2019 as Drug Court Awareness Month**, and thanks the 52-4 District Court Team for their dedication and commitment to Drug Therapy Courts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we call upon our citizens, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of Treatment Courts, most notably the one located right in our own community, and to acknowledge that when one person rises out of substance abuse and crime, we all rise.

Presented this 20th day of May 2019.