



# Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Kelley Lawrence, Developmental Disabilities Coordinator, 360-417-2407

Date: March 3, 2020

Clallam County Board of Commissioners announced on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, its participation and proclamation of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. The purpose of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is to raise awareness and foster inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all areas of community life, as well as an awareness that people with developmental disabilities continue to face barriers in fully connecting with the community in which they live. Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month highlights three main areas of our daily life: education, employment and community living.

If you have any questions regarding employment for those with developmental disabilities, you may contact Clallam County Health & Human Services at 360-417-2407.

Photo (taken by Chelsea Lierly):

Starting at bottom row (left to right)

Bottom Row: Riley O'Neil

Second Row: Grayson Hicks

Third Row: Shawnda Hicks, Kelley Lawrence, Tony Andrus

Fourth Row: Patrick McFarland, Virginia O'Neil, Karen Pierce

Proclamation attached: Recognizing March 2020 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month



**PROCLAMATION  
RECOGNIZING MARCH AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, developmental disability is a natural part of the human experience and affects close to 5 million Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of Clallam County residents and their families are successfully living their lives with developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, every person has valuable strengths, capacity to learn and the potential to make important contributions to their community; and

**WHEREAS**, people with developmental disabilities share with all citizens the desire to achieve personal success through education, meaningful work, and family and community ties; and

**WHEREAS**, Clallam County residents with and without developmental disabilities work together, play together, worship together, learn together and grow together and together enrich the fabric of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, we respect, value and salute the daily accomplishments of all our citizens with or without developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, no disabilities need keep individuals from realizing their full potential nor diminish their right to enjoy and participate within their community; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Clallam County recognize that their community can grow closer through education, awareness and understanding by recognizing individual abilities, commonalities and differences.

**NOW, THEREFORE** BE IT PROCLAIMED the Board of Clallam County Commissioners hereby recognize March 2020 as

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH**

and recognize that together we accomplish more and everyone benefits. We also call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, business and schools in Clallam County to recognize the ability of individuals with developmental disabilities to make significant contributions to their communities and to take time become acquainted with citizens with developmental disabilities and what they have to offer, and to unite the voices of all citizens, with and without developmental disabilities into a strong and inclusive Clallam County.

Signed this third day of March 2020



BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Ozias, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Johnson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Peach



CLALLAM COUNTY COURT  
Built 1915  
HAS BEEN PLACED ON  
NATIONAL REGISTER  
OF HISTORIC PLACES  
BY THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

