

City of St. Helens

PROCLAMATION

By Mayor Rick Scholl

*Oregon Direct Support Professional Recognition Week
September 8 – 14, 2024*

WHEREAS, an estimated 30,000 Oregonians experience an intellectual or developmental disability and benefit from assistance from others to live rich, fulfilling, and inclusive lives; and

WHEREAS, approximately 16,000 Oregonians are employed as Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), an essential job that requires a high level of skill, training, and dedication to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, DSPs in Oregon promote opportunities for people with disabilities to fully participate as valued members of their communities; enhancing their well-being by supporting people in all aspects of their daily lives; and

WHEREAS, DSPs must build close, respectful, and trusted relationships with those for whom they work, which requires compassion, empathy, and the highest ethical standards; and

WHEREAS, DSPs help people manage complex medical and behavioral health needs, assist people with communication, and provide intimate personal supports on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, DSPs have worked through some of the most challenging circumstances imaginable – working on the frontlines throughout the pandemic, ensuring people’s safety during extreme wildfires, and helping people cope with prolonged power outages during historic ice storms; and

WHEREAS, there is a critical shortage of DSPs throughout Oregon, and together we are committed to improving wages, benefits, and opportunities for advancement to improve the quality of support, safety, and health of individuals with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scholl, Mayor of the City of St. Helens, hereby proclaim the week of **September 8-14, 2024** as **Oregon Direct Support Professional Recognition Week** in the City of St. Helens, and encourage all citizens to join me in this important observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Helens to be affixed at St. Helens City Hall on this 4th day of September 2024.

MAYOR:

Rick Scholl, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

*Place
Gold
Seal &
Stamp
Here*