

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, for more than a quarter of a century Living Access Support Alliance (LASA) Executive Director Janne Hutchins committed herself and her career to ending homelessness in Lakewood and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, in 1997 Hutchins became LASA's first full-time director, beginning her career with the non-profit housing organization by operating out of a one-room office in the basement of St. Frances Cabrini and her car, which she used to run from location to location; and

WHEREAS, with Hutchins' leadership and guidance, LASA has grown from its humble start into an organization that specializes in supporting people experiencing homelessness by connecting them with various housing options and offering them wraparound support services including a food pantry, diaper closet, peer support, clothing, hygiene supplies, and holiday and back-to-school drives and giveaways; and

WHEREAS, along with leading the LASA organization, Hutchins also tirelessly managed various programs such as rapid rehousing, emergency housing, peer support, case management and rent and utility assistance; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her service to LASA, Hutchins served as adjunct faculty at Tacoma Community College, provided expert assistance to the Homeless and Domestic Violence Childcare Board and the Tacoma-Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium, organized state legislator health promotion events in Florida, South Carolina and Georgia, and completed a health program marketing campaign for NBC-TV that was featured in Newsweek; and

WHEREAS, under her direction LASA purchased numerous single-family homes and duplexes for their affordable housing program and a 14-unit Flett Meadows complex, currently used as permanent housing that offers supportive services; and

WHEREAS, Hutchins sponsored the creation of LASA's Client Services Center on Gravelly Lake Drive, as well as the 15-unit Prairie Oaks development currently housing LASA's Permanent Supportive Housing Program; and

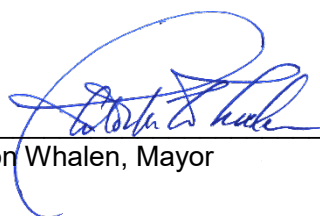
WHEREAS, even as she prepares to leave her position with LASA, Hutchins continues to advocate for the next stage of development of the organization's Gravelly Lake Commons project that would add 55 affordable apartments to Lakewood targeted at low-income households, as well as with other necessary services like a hygiene center.

NOW THEREFORE, the Lakewood City Council hereby congratulates

JANNE HUTCHINS

On her retirement and expresses gratitude and appreciation for the lasting impact she has made on the lives of those in the Lakewood community and beyond.

PROCLAIMED this 3rd day of April, 2023.



Jason Whalen, Mayor