

## **DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

Cultivating Inclusion – Lewis County promotes a welcoming culture for people of all abilities, races, ethnicities, nationalities, and sexual orientations. We act in meaningful ways to support individuals who may not feel like they have a voice and we ask those recognized by us to do the same.

Our vision is for a Lewis County that welcomes *ALL* people with respect, acceptance, and understanding within our schools, businesses, and community.

Discrimination is real and alive in our community and we want those who are hurting to know, we see you. We see your challenges and your fear. We stand beside you and will lift you up.

We support and stand with people with physical and or developmental/behavioral differences, people of color, LGBTQ+, and our indigenous communities. We stand against racism, discrimination, and systemic oppression – as we uphold our name by providing a safe place for voices and concerns to be heard.

We do not stand with individuals or organizations who act against our mission. We apologize for past recognition of individuals who do not practice inclusion of all people.

Our future commitment is to fully review nominees and only lift up those people and organizations who are truly cultivating inclusion - *all people, all abilities*.

This is a human rights statement, as we seek to provide a safe place for all people to be seen and respected.