



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**THROUGH:** Tyler Schroeder, Deputy Executive

**FROM:** Kayla Schott-Bresler, Strategic Initiatives Manager

**RE:** Boys and Girls Clubs of Whatcom County – Childcare Stabilization

**DATE:** October 2, 2023

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Attached is a funding agreement between Whatcom County and Boys and Girls Clubs of Whatcom County for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allows funds to be used as grants for nonprofits negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Whatcom County has determined that nonprofit childcare providers are an impacted class of nonprofits under Treasury's final rule.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Whatcom County acquired Kids World, Inc, a large childcare provider, on March 1, 2020. This made Boys and Girls Clubs of Whatcom County the largest childcare provider in this community, with 532 childcare slots countywide for children infancy to age 12. The Boys and Girls Clubs experienced significant economic impacts from the pandemic, jeopardizing the operation and stability of its childcare services. Boys and Girls Clubs has requested funding to mitigate this impact.

All licensed nonprofit and for-profit childcare providers in Whatcom County are eligible to apply for ARPA assistance through the Opportunity Council. Due to the size of Boys and Girls Clubs, the County Executive's Office recommended they apply directly with the County for pandemic relief. The County Executive's Office is recommending a \$757,036 grant to the agency, which is proportional in size (on a licensed slot basis) to grants other childcare providers are receiving through the Opportunity Council.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this Agreement may not exceed \$757,036 and is provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These funds are included in the 2023 Budget (Fund 138, Childcare Stabilization).