



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Aristo Healthcare Services – COVID Vaccine Clinic Operations Contract Amendment #1
DATE: January 3, 2022

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Aristo Healthcare Services for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract is in response to a notification from Whatcom County Health Department to locally enrolled COVID-19 vaccine providers of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding available to reimburse eligible expenses supporting community COVID-19 vaccination. This contract provides reimbursement for services provided by Aristo Healthcare Services personnel operating COVID-19 vaccine clinics and administering vaccines at community vaccine clinics (CVC) throughout Whatcom County.

On 9/23/2021, the Washington State Department of Health informed all Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJ) that in preparation for future surge needs for booster and pediatric vaccination, LHJs would need to contract with vaccine administration contractors directly and could not utilize state contracts for more than three weeks while entering into independent contracts. There was not adequate time to advertise an RFP and after reaching out to multiple contractors, Aristo was selected to fill gaps for the demand in vaccine clinics that other contractors could not meet.

This original contract began on 12/15/2021 and was executed under the COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency, per Whatcom County Code 3.08.100(A)(6). The purpose of this amendment is to increase funding by \$435,000 to support additional clinics through 03/31/2022.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract varies depending on actual expenses, however, total funding is estimated not to exceed \$543,732. Funds under the contract are made available by a grant awarded by FEMA, passed through the Washington State Department of Health Mass Vaccination FEMA Grant (CFDA 97.036) and a grant awarded by the US Department of Treasury and subject to section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as amended by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and Title V and VI of the CARES Act, passed through the Washington State Department of Health Vaccine Services-CARES Grant (CFDA #93.268). These funds are included in the 2022 budget. Council approval is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Cindy Hollinsworth, Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Manager at 360-778-6160 (CHollins@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

