



## Memorandum

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Charlene Ramont, Interim Director  
**RE:** Opportunity Council – Behavioral Health Outreach Contract  
**DATE:** MAY 20, 2025

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Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for outreach and engagement services for individuals experiencing homelessness and struggling with opioid and substance use disorders. This contract will build on previous successes by furthering engagement and expanding access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), opiate/substance use disorder (O/SUD) treatment, and essential community resources. The Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) provides funding to expand access to services for individuals with substance use disorders, particularly those who are underserved or at high risk, such as people experiencing homelessness, individuals involved in the criminal justice system, and those with co-occurring mental health disorders. This contract is awarded as a result of RFP solicitation 25-18 and the Opportunity Council was the sole respondent. The Opportunity Council has successfully provided street outreach, demonstrating experience in the provision of O/SUD service navigation.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$117,849, is the SABG (ALN 93.959) passed through the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization. These funds are included in the 2025 budget. Council authorization is required per WCC 3.08.100 as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

- **Differences from Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract; however, funding for these services has been provided through previous contracts with the Opportunity Council since 2017. This contract includes no significant changes from the contract ending on 06/30/2025 (WC Contract #202106006):

Please contact Hannah Fisk, Special Projects Manager at 360-820-7212 ([HFisk@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:HFisk@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions.

Encl.

