



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director

RE: Opportunity Council – Whatcom Resource Information Collaborative Contract

DATE: May 31, 2024

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

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract supports the expansion, administration and management of the Whatcom Resource Information Collaborative (WRIC) website. WRIC is a database and web platform supported by open source software designed to provide reliable, universal access to critical information about available health, human, and social services and resources to benefit Whatcom County residents and service providers.

This contract provides funding for the Opportunity Council to a) administer and manage the WRIC website, b) research, curate and evaluate available resources specific to substance use prevention and treatment, and c) develop and maintain an accessible calendar of community health and human services related trainings and events available to the community. The desired result is to maintain a central place to refer community agencies and individuals seeking resources related to behavioral health and substance use prevention and treatment.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$65,000, is provided by Foundation Public Health Services funds passed through the Washington State Department of Health. These funds are included in the 2024 budget. Council authorization is required per WCC 3.08.010, as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

- **Differences between Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract; however, funding for similar services was provided in WC contract #202303014 through 12/31/2023. This contract provides ongoing administration and management of the WRIC while the previous contract supported services to include additional resources for and inclusion of priority populations/sub-populations and development of system training and improvements.

Please contact Louise Trapp, Community Health and Human Services Assistant Manager at 360-778-6084 (LTrapp@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.