



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Cascade Connections – Services to Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Contract Amendment #3
DATE: JUNE 26, 2023

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Cascade Connections for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides “Pathways to Employment” and “Community Inclusion” services to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities. Pathways to Employment services are designed to assist individuals to pursue and maintain paid employment in integrated community settings. Community inclusion services are designed to increase participation and inclusion in the community. In January 2023, 350 adults in Whatcom County received employment services and 36 received community inclusion services. Cascade Connections is one of four community providers offering these services. This amendment extends the contract for an additional year (07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024) and increases estimated annual funding by \$323,618 compared to the 2022 – 2023 contract period to support the Department of Social and Health Services’ (DSHS) data projections for Whatcom County and an increase in the DSHS established rate lids, as follows:

Service	2022-2023	2023-2024
Individual Employment	\$84/hour	\$105.60/hour
Group Supported Employment	\$72/hour	\$91.04/hour
Community Inclusion	\$39/hour	\$61.36/hour

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract is provided by the Washington State DSHS, Developmental Disabilities Administration and local DD Millage. Total compensation under this contract will vary depending on the number of clients and types of services authorized, however, the estimated authorized service level for this contract period (07/01/2023 – 06/30/2024) is \$1,657,818. Council authorization is required as this amendment increases funding by more than 10% of the amount authorized by Council on 06/29/2021.

- **Differences from Previous Contracts**

Section	Amendment Purpose
General Terms – Section 10.2 Extension	Extends contract for an additional year, through 06/30/2024
Exhibit A – Scope of Work	More clearly incorporates by reference DSHS general terms and conditions, DSHS Data security agreement and DSHS/DDA program agreement for the current biennium.
Exhibit B – Compensation	Increases the rates approved by legislature and in line with the State’s 2022 Rate Study for Employment and Community Inclusion Services.

Please contact Amanda Burnett, Human Services Supervisor at 360-778-6069 (ABurnett@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Financial & Administrative Manager at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions. Encl.