



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: VillageReach – Permanent Supportive Housing Assessment Contract
DATE: **AUGUST 28, 2024**

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

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for a comprehensive assessment and audit of Whatcom County's Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs. This contract is a response to community feedback requesting an assessment of local PSH programs. The goal of the assessment is to understand and improve Whatcom County's PSH systems. The assessment will:

- Evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of existing PSH programs including a comparison of local program effectiveness, safety standards, policies/procedures, and mortality rates, with those across Washington State and the United States.
- Identify areas for improvement
- Ensure alignment with best practices in the field
- Identify additional resources that may be necessary to assure success of the programs

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$86,046, is provided by Document Recording Fees. These funds are included in the 2024 budget. Council authorization is required as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Christopher D'Onofrio, Housing & Homeless Services Supervisor at 360-778-6049 (CDonofrio@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

Encl.