



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director  
**RE:** Opportunity Council – CJTA Rental Assistance Contract  
**DATE:** November 2, 2022

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

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Whatcom County seeks to ensure housing opportunities for people with criminal charges who are challenged with substance use disorders (SUD), are homeless or discharging from institutions, or who need a viable, clean and sober living environment. This contract provides funding for the Contractor to administer up to twelve months of rental assistance for people with co-occurring disorders (serious mental illness and SUD). This contract is awarded as a result of RFP 22-34.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$49,600, is provided by the Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA) through the Washington State Health Care Authority. These funds are included in the 2023 budget. Council approval is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

▪ **Differences between Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract, however, funding for these services have been provided in similar contracts since 2019. This contract updates reporting requirements but includes no significant changes from the contract currently in place (WC Contract #201811023).

Please contact Jackie Mitchell, Program Specialist at 360-778-6048 ([JMitchel@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:JMitchel@co.whatcom.wa.us)) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 ([KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

