



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director  
**RE:** Opportunity Council – Housing Case Management Contract Amendment #9  
**DATE:** December 7, 2020

---

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

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Housing Case Managers provide assistance to access housing, improve housing stability and reduce homelessness through joint efforts between the Whatcom Homeless Service Center (WHSC) and Community Services Division of the Opportunity Council. Referrals for the services provided under this contract originate from the WHSC which prioritizes those who are most vulnerable for services. The purpose of this amendment is to add funding for chronically homeless families with children, staffing and existing line items, update reporting requirements, renew the contract for an additional 6 months, and incorporate subrecipient requirements for the Washington State Department of Commerce Emergency Solutions Grant – COVID-19 (ESG-CV).

This contract will meet the maximum number of allowable contract extensions on 12/31/2020, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, agencies providing case management services have been overwhelmed with providing critical services to Whatcom County's homeless populations and did not have the administrative capacity to respond to a Request for Proposal. The Whatcom County Finance and Prosecuting Attorney's offices made the decision to allow the currently contracted case management agencies to operate through June 30, 2021 and delay the issuance of a new RFP until the end of 2020.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$271,615, is provided by the Washington State Department of Commerce Consolidated Homeless Grant, ESG-CV Grant (CFDA 14.231) and local document recording fees. These funds will be included in the 2021 budget. Council approval is required as the number of allowable extensions indicated in the original contract will be exceeded by this amendment.

Please contact Kathleen Roy at extension #6007 if you have any questions regarding this agreement.

Encl.

