



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** YWCA Bellingham – Severe Weather Shelter Operations Contract

**DATE:** November 20, 2023

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

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for YWCA Bellingham to provide up to 20 motel rooms to serve single women and their children during the winter of 2023-2024. Whatcom County continues to experience a shortage of life-saving emergency shelters during severe weather episodes. The severe weather experienced in Whatcom County over the last few years has demonstrated a need to provide additional shelter options for the County's most vulnerable people, including families with children. This contract is awarded as a result of RFP 23-57.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$385,000, is provided by the Washington State Department of Commerce Emergency Housing Fund Grant (ALN 21.027). These funds are included in the 2023 and 2024 budgets. Council authorization is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Christopher D'Onofrio, Housing & Homeless Services Supervisor at 360-778-6049 ([CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:CDonofri@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.