



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Champ Thomaskutty, Director
RE: Peace Centers – Healthy Children’s Fund Drop-In Care Contract Amendment #1
DATE: APRIL 16, 2026

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Peace Centers for your review and signature. This amendment renews the contract for six months.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract supports a coordinated system of licensed drop-in childcare within Whatcom County. Utilizing existing licensed home-based childcare and/or ECEAP, Head Start, and other licensed childcare centers, Peace Centers maintains a system to match licensed childcare providers who are interested in offering drop-in care. Priority of drop-in care slots will be for low-income guardians and children in Foster Care and if slots remain, private pay families in need of drop-in childcare will be able to access the program at a cost. This contract aligns with Strategy 5 of the Healthy Children’s Fund (HCF) Implementation Plan to increase access to early learning opportunities by increasing the number of child care slots across Whatcom County, prioritizing slots for underserved children.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract period (05/01/2026 – 10/31/2026), in an amount not to exceed \$290,676.84 is provided by the HCF. These funds are included in the 2026 budget. Council authorization is required as the funding provided by this amendment exceeds 10% of the amount authorized by Council.

▪ **Differences from Previous Contracts**

| Section | Differences |
|---|--|
| General Terms – Section 10.1, Term | Extends the contract for six months, through 10/31/2026. |
| General Terms – Sections 37.1, Notice and 37.2, Administration | Updates the county contract administrator’s contact information. |
| General Terms – Section 40.1, Modifications | Modifies the Scope of Work to maintain the program, add Scope Limitations, add additional requirements to meet performance expectations, add time limited assistance of up to 60 consecutive days, add maximum number of dedicated drop-in slots receiving an incentive per center, and update reporting requirements to reflect changes in the Scope of Work and frequency of reports, and reflect the budget for the extended contract period. |
| Exhibit A – Scope of Work | |
| Exhibit B – Compensation | |

Please contact Sarah Simpson, Children & Family Programs Supervisor at 360-410-2400 or SSimpson@co.whatcom.wa.us if you have any questions.