



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director  
**RE:** North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization, LLC –  
Integrated Care Network Contract Amendment #3  
**DATE:** May 13, 2024

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Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization for your review and signature. This amendment increases Jail Transition Services funding by \$101,896 to provide one-time additional Proviso Reserve funds to support substance use disorder assessments in jail, re-entry services and recovery and mental health courts.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

The purpose of this contract is to acknowledge & fund Whatcom's participation in the North Sound Integrated Care Network (ICN) in order to promote a continuity of care for individuals, avoid service disruption, ensure the provision of behavioral health services and strengthen the regional service network.

Whatcom County participates in the ICN along with Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Snohomish Counties. The North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (NS BH-ASO) administers the ICN to cooperatively provide a community health program and regional system of care, with the collective goal of consolidating administration, reducing administrative layering and reducing administrative costs, consistent with the State of Washington's legislative policy as set forth in [RCW 71.24](#).

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract is \$625,684.10 through June 30, 2024. Funding is provided by the Dedicated Marijuana Account, Jail Services, Trueblood, Law Enforcement Co-Responder Outreach Programs, and the federal Substance Abuse Block Grant (CFDA 93.959), each passed through the NS BH-ASO to Whatcom County. These funds will be included in the 2024 budget. The contract includes terms for automatic annual renewals. Council authorization is required as the additional grant funding provided by this amendment exceeds \$40,000, per WCC 3.06.010.

Please contact Malora Christensen, Response Systems Manager at 360-778-6131 ([MChriste@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:MChriste@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.