



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** Washington State Department of Commerce – Consolidated Homeless Grant

**DATE:** June 30, 2021

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Attached is an Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Commerce for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

The Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG) provides resources to obtain and maintain housing stability to people who are experiencing homelessness. This grant supports the priorities outlined in the Whatcom County Plan to End Homelessness. Funding provided by this grant is passed through to partner agencies of the Whatcom Homeless Service Center for distribution to eligible people.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This Agreement includes \$6,335,182 in funding for the 2021-2023 biennium. These funds will be included in the 2021 budget. Council approval is required per RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This Agreement provides funding for both the CHG and the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Program. While Commerce has allocated a reduced amount in CHG compared to the Agreement that ends on 6/30/21 (WC Contract #201907017), Commerce has indicated that there is likely an additional allocation later in 2021, due to legislative changes. The HEN Program, however, has received a substantial increase in funding which accounts for an additional \$1,466,719 to serve more people in Whatcom County.

Please contact Anne Deacon, Human Services Manager at 360-778-6054 ([ADeacon@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:ADeacon@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.

