



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) – Small Capital Contract
DATE: AUGUST 27, 2024

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

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding to support the rehabilitation of two DVSAS owned facilities, the Safe Shelter and the Rotary House, where affordable and supportive housing services are provided. The Safe Shelter prioritizes families and individuals who need support with mobility, and the Rotary House prioritizes singles with a companion animal.

The work funded by this contract meets the eligibility requirements for HB 1590 funding as the facilities provide emergency housing and services to individuals that are at or below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI), they serve individuals fleeing domestic violence, and more than 15% of the units are occupied by residents who were previously living in or near Bellingham, where the shelters are located. This contract is awarded as a result of RFP 23-88.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$310,000, is provided by HB 1590. These funds are included in the 2024 budget. Council authorization is required as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Eric Chambers, Special Projects Manager at 360-778-6199 (EKChambe@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Ann Beck, Community Health and Human Services Manager at 360-78-6055 (ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

Encl.