



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** Opportunity Council – Whatcom Homeless Service Center Contract Amendment #1

**DATE:** February 9, 2021

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Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

The Whatcom Homeless Service Center (WHSC) provides coordinated entry for the homeless housing system. The WHSC makes referrals to partner agencies for housing case management services, cultivates and maintains relationships with local landlords, and serves as liaison for homeless housing activities to the network of service providers and other community stakeholders. The purpose of this amendment is to increase funding by \$100,000 for emergency shelter in motels during the months of January and February for vulnerable households and individuals experiencing homelessness. This funding is expected to provide emergency shelter for 30-35 households.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$896,701, is provided by the Washington State Department of Commerce Consolidated Homeless Grant, the federal Emergency Solutions-CV Grant (CFDA 14.231), HB 2060 Low-Income Housing Funds, local document recording fees, the Veteran's Assistance Fund, and Whatcom County's COVID Response Fund. These funds are included in the 2021 budget. Council approval is required as additional funding exceeds 10% of the approved budget.

Please contact Kathleen Roy at extension #6007 if you have any questions regarding this agreement.

Encl.