



# Memorandum

**TO:** SATPAL SIDHU, COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**FROM:** Ann Beck

**DATE:** 05/22/2024

**RE:** PRESENTATION ON WHATCOM COUNTY HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
VETERANS PROGRAM

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In 2023 Whatcom County Health and Community Services added a second full-time Veterans Service Officer to its staff increasing the capacity of the program. Staff of the Veterans Program will provide a brief overview of the growth, activities, and accomplishments of the program over the past year as well as discussing the current climate and challenges facing the Whatcom County Veteran community. For example, approximately 1,000 claims were filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs on behalf of eligible Whatcom County Veterans and \$100,000 was provided in direct financial assistance to indigent Veterans to help them maintain housing stability. The need for both VA claims assistance and direct financial assistance continues to grow in relation to the overall cost of housing across Whatcom County.

Please call Ann Beck, CHHS Manager at 6055 if there are any questions. Thank you.