



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: YWCA Bellingham – Shelter and Housing Case Management Contract
DATE: NOVEMBER 26, 2024

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

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for housing case management services and other operational support services for shelter and transitional housing beds. The YWCA currently provides 14 year-round shelter beds, five of which are specifically for women ages 55+, and 27 transitional housing units for women. An additional 19 units of year-round shelter are expected to be added in early 2025. This contract is awarded as a result of RFP 24-42.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

A six-month contract period is proposed in order to align with the state fiscal year starting July 1, 2025. Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$425,012, is provided by the Consolidated Homeless Grant. These funds are included in the 2025 budget. Council authorization is required per WCC 3.08.100, as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

- **Differences Between Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract; however, funding for some of these services has been provided through previous contracts since 2012. This contract includes modest changes from the contract ending on 12/31/2024 (WC Contract #202106025), mainly in the expansion of staff and operating costs for the new shelter units, updates to contract language to reflect standardized language for scopes of work for similar contract types, and the reduction to a six-month contract term to better align with grants that use the state fiscal year.

Please contact Christopher D'Onofrio, Housing & Homeless Services Supervisor at 360-778-6049 (CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

Encl.