

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Health

Human Services

Suppl ID # 3107

Fund 122

Cost Center 122900

Originator: Anne Deacon

Expenditure Type: One-Time

Year 2 2020

Add'l FTE

Add'l Space

Priority 1

Name of Request: Shelter Grant

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	4334.0421	Commerce Grant	(\$220,000)
	6610	Contractual Services	\$200,000
	8351	Operating Transfer Out	\$20,000
	Request Total		\$0

1a. Description of request:

We are requesting expenditure authority of new funding from the Washington State Department of Commerce to develop/expand shelter capacity by December 2020. The goal of the funded services is to bring people inside with and exit participants to permanent housing quickly. The grant total of \$1,194,211 provides funding through June 30, 2023 and it is expected that \$220,000 will be utilized in 2020.

1b. Primary customers:

Whatcom County Individuals and families who are homeless.

2. Problem to be solved:

On January 23, 2020, 707 people in Whatcom County were counted as experiencing homelessness during the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count. In addition to those counted, hundreds more are known to be at risk of losing their homes and becoming homeless in Whatcom County. In 2019, there were 432 emergency shelter beds available in Whatcom County. The number of safe emergency shelter beds does not meet the need in the community. To add to this challenge, increased bed capacity in existing shelter has been challenging as congregate living situations are not recommended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3a. Options / Advantages:

These additional funds will support an expansion of shelter options which will promote individual as well as public health and welfare interests. Providing safe nightly shelter with the opportunity for regular social service supports can help those experiencing homelessness to gain stability and begin to access more permanent housing options.

3b. Cost savings:

These funds are supported by state dollars and will not impact local funds. Cost savings will occur as people are stabilized in housing, to include when in need of isolation or quarantine, and the negative impacts to public health and welfare are mitigated.

4a. Outcomes:

Increased shelter opportunities to provide for safety, security and wellness for those experiencing homelessness.

4b. Measures:

Increase in number of additional shelter beds and services in the community to provide support to those experiencing homelessness.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Health

Human Services

Suppl ID # 3107

Fund 122

Cost Center 122900

Originator: Anne Deacon

We will work closely with Whatcom Homeless Service Center's Coordinated Entry Partners as well as other shelter providers willing to enter information into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). We will also work with the City of Bellingham, the small cities and the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee.

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

n/a

6. Funding Source:

Washington State Department of Commerce is dispersing these funds which are a part of the state appropriations of the Home Security Fund.