

Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Charlene Ramont, Assistant Director

RE: Lummi Indian Business Council – Healthy Children's Fund Innovative Services Contract

DATE: MARCH 17, 2025

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Lummi Indian Business Council for your review and signature.

Background and Purpose

The services provided through this contract will increase kindergarten readiness in Whatcom County through the provision of comprehensive services for families with children ages 0-5 at the Lummi Nation's new Health Center. Services provided through this contract will be strategically co-located with established services such as pediatric, behavioral, perinatal, WIC, nutrition, and child social work services, which will better help serve the needs of working families with children ages 0-5.

This funding supports pediatric and service providers to pilot best practices for identifying, screening, and promoting kindergarten readiness through their "Ready, Set, Grow" pilot project which will:

- Identify developmental delays
- Provide timely access to support services
- Provide resources for home-based kindergarten skill acquisition
- Provide monthly gatherings for families on topics such as early literacy, social-emotional development, language, physical development, mathematics, nutrition and dental care, cognitive skills, and preventive health care
- Provide comprehensive child health services including nutrition, dental, immunization, behavioral, and intervention therapies

This contract is awarded as a result of RFP solicitation 24-66 and aligns with the Healthy Children's Fund Implementation Plan's Strategy Six to support innovative approaches to meet various Healthy Children's Fund goal related to Early Learning and Care

Funding Amount and Source

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$282,889, is provided by the Healthy Children's Fund. 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.

Please contact Sarah Simpson, Children and Family Programs Supervisor at 360-410-2400 (SSimpson@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

