



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director  
**RE:** Opportunity Council – COVID-Related Support Services  
**DATE:** July 24, 2020

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

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract is in response to a notification from Whatcom County Health Department to core not-for-profit behavioral health and social service providers of federal grant funding available to help mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 on their organizations. Each respondent to the notification has worked with Health to specify COVID-related expenditure reimbursement needs. The Opportunity Council has been adapting to operational changes necessary to observe COVID-19 risk mitigation measures while continuing efforts to sustain housing stability for their clients. The purpose of this contract is to provide reimbursement of operating expenses that have been incurred to ensure COVID-19 risk mitigation measures are achievable. Reimbursable expenses include additional staffing of Residential Counselors at 22 North, communications and technology needs of staff working from home and in socially distant work spaces, PPE and sanitation equipment and supplies, increased janitorial services, private security to promote social distancing of client visits, and retrofitting of a client service center.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract may not exceed \$273,500. Funds under the contract are made available by a grant awarded by the US Department of Treasury and subject to Section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as amended by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), and Title V and VI of the CARES Act, passed through the Washington State Department of Commerce Local Government Coronavirus Relief Fund (CFDA 21.016). These funds are included in the 2020 budget. Council approval is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

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

Encl.

