



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization, LLC –  
Integrated Care Network Agreement Amendment #2

**DATE:** February 6, 2024

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Attached is an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization for your review and signature. This amendment extends the agreement for six months and increases funding by \$523,788.10 to support the extended agreement period (01/01/2024 – 06/30/2024). This amendment also updates the Compensation Schedule (Exhibit B) with new reimbursement rates and Provider Deliverables (Exhibit D) to remove the requirement to submit the Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) Capacity Management Form.

- **Background and Purpose**

Whatcom County participates in the North Sound Integrated Care Network (ICN) along with Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Snohomish Counties. The North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (NS BH-ASO) administers the ICN to cooperatively provide a community health program and regional system of care, with the collective goal of consolidating administration, reducing administrative layering and reducing administrative costs, consistent with the State of Washington's legislative policy as set forth in [RCW 71.24](#).

The purpose of this Agreement is to acknowledge & fund Whatcom's participation in the ICN in order to promote a continuity of care for individuals, avoid service disruption, ensure the provision of behavioral health services and strengthen the regional service network.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this Agreement is \$523,788.10 through June 30, 2024. Funding is provided by the Dedicated Marijuana Account, Jail Services, Trueblood, Law Enforcement Co-Responder Outreach Programs, and the federal Substance Abuse Block Grant (CFDA 93.959), each passed through the NS BH-ASO. These funds will be included in the 2024 budget. The Agreement includes terms for automatic annual renewals. Council authorization is required as the additional grant funding provided by this amendment exceeds \$40,000, per WCC 3.06.010.

Please contact Malora Christensen, Response Systems Manager at 360-778-6131 ([MChriste@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:MChriste@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.