

**WHATCOM COUNTY  
CONTRACT INFORMATION SHEET**

Whatcom County Contract Number:

Originating Department:	85 Health and Community Services
Division/Program: (i.e. Dept. Division and Program)	8550 Human Services / 855040 Housing
Contract or Grant Administrator:	Jane Oliphant
Contractor's / Agency Name:	Ferndale Community Services

Is this a New Contract?	If not, is this an Amendment or Renewal to an Existing Contract?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	If Amendment or Renewal, (per WCC 3.08.100 (a)) Original Contract #:	

Does contract require Council Approval?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	If No, include WCC:
Already approved? Council Approved Date:	(Exclusions see: Whatcom County Codes 3.06.010, 3.08.090 and 3.08.100)		

Is this a grant agreement?	If yes, grantor agency contract number(s):		ALN#
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Is this contract grant funded?	If yes, Whatcom County grant contract number(s):	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Is this contract the result of a RFP or Bid process?	If yes, RFP and Bid number(s):		24-07	Contract Cost Center:	145130
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>				

Is this agreement excluded from E-Verify?	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
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- If YES, indicate exclusion(s) below:
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional services agreement for certified/licensed professional. | <input type="checkbox"/> Goods and services provided due to an emergency.    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract work is for less than \$100,000.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Contract for Commercial off the shelf items (COTS). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract work is for less than 120 days.                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Work related subcontract less than \$25,000.        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interlocal Agreement (between Governments).                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works - Local Agency/Federally Funded FHWA.  |

Contract Amount:(sum of original contract amount and any prior amendments):	Council approval required for; all property leases, contracts or bid awards <b>exceeding \$40,000</b> , and professional service contract amendments that have an increase greater than \$10,000 or 10% of contract amount, whichever is greater, <b>except when</b> : 1. Exercising an option contained in a contract previously approved by the council. 2. Contract is for design, construction, r-o-w acquisition, prof. services, or other capital costs approved by council in a capital budget appropriation ordinance. 3. Bid or award is for supplies. 4. Equipment is included in Exhibit "B" of the Budget Ordinance 5. Contract is for manufacturer's technical support and hardware maintenance of electronic systems and/or technical support and software maintenance from the developer of proprietary software currently used by Whatcom County.
\$ 376,416	
This Amendment Amount:	
\$	
Total Amended Amount:	
\$	

Summary of Scope: This contract provides funding for short term housing assistance and case management to stabilize families with young children in unstable housing situations.

Term of Contract:	15 Months	Expiration Date:	12/31/2025
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Contract Routing:	1. Prepared by:	JT	Date:	05/20/2024
	2. Health Budget Approval	JS	Date:	07/18/2024
	3. Attorney signoff:	Christopher Quinn	Date:	7/18/2024
	4. AS Finance reviewed:	BBennett	Date:	09/27/2024
	5. IT reviewed (if IT related):		Date:	
	6. Contractor signed:		Date:	
	7. Executive Contract Review:		Date:	
	8. Council approved (if necessary):		Date:	
	9. Executive signed:		Date:	
	10. Original to Council:		Date:	

**CONTRACT FOR SERVICES**  
**Between Whatcom County and Ferndale Community Services**

Ferndale Community Services, hereinafter called **Contractor** and Whatcom County, hereinafter referred to as **County**, agree and contract as set forth in this Agreement, including:

General Conditions, pp. 3 to 13,  
Exhibit A (Scope of Work), pp. 14 to 18,  
Exhibit B (Compensation), pp. 19 to 21,  
Exhibit C (Certificate of Insurance), p. 22,  
Exhibit D (Flex Funding Guidelines).

Copies of these items are attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference as if fully set forth herein.

The term of this Agreement shall commence on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024, and shall, unless terminated or renewed as elsewhere provided in the Agreement, terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2025.

The general purpose or objective of this Agreement is to provide case management and housing services, as more fully and definitively described in Exhibit A hereto. The language of Exhibit A controls in case of any conflict between it and that provided here.

The maximum consideration for the initial term of this agreement or for any renewal term authorized herein (if applicable) shall not exceed \$376,416. The Contract Number, set forth above, shall be included on all billings or correspondence in connection therewith.

Contractor acknowledges and by signing this contract agrees that the Indemnification provisions set forth in Paragraphs 11.1, 21.1, 30.1, 31.2, 32.1, 34.2, and 34.3, if included, are totally and fully part of this contract and have been mutually negotiated by the parties.

Each person signing this Contract represents and warrants that he or she is duly authorized and has legal capacity to execute and deliver this Contract.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement on:

**CONTRACTOR:**

**Ferndale Community Services**  
PO Box 2205  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Each signatory below to this Contract warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the contract and to bind the party thereto.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara O'Connor, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**WHATCOM COUNTY:**  
**Recommended for Approval:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Beck, Community Health & Human Services Manager                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Erika Lautenbach, Health and Community Services Director                      Date

**Approved as to form:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Quinn, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor                      Date

**Approved:**  
Accepted for Whatcom County:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive                      Date

**CONTRACTOR INFORMATION:**

**Ferndale Community Services**  
PO Box 2205  
Ferndale, WA 98248  
360-380-2200  
[sara@ferndalecs.org](mailto:sara@ferndalecs.org)

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

### **Series 00-09: Provisions Related to Scope and Nature of Services**

#### 0.1 Scope of Services:

The Contractor agrees to provide to the County services and any materials as set forth in the project narrative identified as Exhibit "A", during the agreement period. No material, labor, or facilities will be furnished by the County, unless otherwise provided for in the Agreement.

### **Series 10-19: Provisions Related to Term and Termination**

#### 10.1 Term:

Services provided by Contractor prior to or after the term of this contract shall be performed at the expense of Contractor and are not compensable under this contract unless both parties hereto agree to such provision in writing. The term of this Agreement may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties; provided, however, that the Agreement is in writing and signed by both parties.

#### 10.2 Extension:

The duration, consideration and other terms and conditions of this Agreement may be extended after the initial term of this Agreement by mutual written consent of the parties.

Extensions may be for a period of up to one year per extension, and for a cumulative total of no longer than four years including the original term.

#### 11.1 Termination for Default:

If the Contractor defaults by failing to perform any of the obligations of the contract or becomes insolvent or is declared bankrupt or commits any act of bankruptcy or insolvency or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, the County may, by depositing written notice to the Contractor in the U.S. mail, first class postage prepaid, terminate the contract, and at the County's option, obtain performance of the work elsewhere. Termination shall be effective upon Contractor's receipt of the written notice, or within three (3) days of the mailing of the notice, whichever occurs first. If the contract is terminated for default, the Contractor shall not be entitled to receive any further payments under the contract until all work called for has been fully performed. Any extra cost or damage to the County resulting from such default(s) shall be deducted from any money due or coming due to the Contractor. The Contractor shall bear any extra expenses incurred by the County in completing the work, including all increased costs for completing the work, and all damage sustained, or which may be sustained by the County by reason of such default.

#### 11.2 Termination for Reduction in Funding:

In the event that funding from State, Federal or other sources is withdrawn, reduced, or limited in any way after the effective date of this Agreement, and prior to its normal completion, the County may summarily terminate this Agreement as to the funds withdrawn, reduced, or limited, notwithstanding any other termination provisions of this Agreement. If the level of funding withdrawn, reduced or limited is so great that the County deems that the continuation of the programs covered by this Agreement is no longer in the best interest of the County, the County may summarily terminate this Agreement in whole, notwithstanding any other termination provisions of this Agreement. Termination under this section shall be effective upon receipt of written notice as specified herein, or within three days of the mailing of the notice, whichever occurs first.

#### 11.3 Termination for Public Convenience:

The County may terminate the Agreement in whole or in part whenever the County determines, in its sole discretion, that such termination is in the interests of the County. Whenever the Agreement is terminated in accordance with this paragraph, the Contractor shall be entitled to payment for actual work performed at unit contract prices for completed items of work. An equitable adjustment in the contract price for partially completed items of work will be made, but such adjustment shall not include provision for loss of anticipated profit on deleted or uncompleted work. Termination of this Agreement by the County at any time during the term, whether for default or convenience, shall not constitute breach of contract by the County.

### **Series 20-29: Provisions Related to Consideration and Payments**

#### 20.1 Accounting and Payment for Contractor Services:

Payment to the Contractor for services rendered under this Agreement shall be as set forth in Exhibit "B." Where Exhibit "B" requires payments by the County, payment shall be based upon written claims supported, unless otherwise provided in Exhibit "B," by documentation of units of work actually performed and amounts earned, including, where appropriate, the actual number of days worked each month, total number of hours for the month, and the total dollar payment requested, so as to comply with municipal auditing requirements.

Unless specifically stated in Exhibit "B" or approved in writing in advance by the official executing this Agreement for the County or his designee (hereinafter referred to as the "Administrative Officer") the County will not reimburse the Contractor for any costs or expenses incurred by the Contractor in the performance of this contract. Where required, the County shall, upon receipt of appropriate documentation, compensate the Contractor, no more often than monthly, in accordance with the County's customary procedures, pursuant to the fee schedule set forth in Exhibit "B."

21.1 Taxes:

The Contractor understands and acknowledges that the County will not withhold Federal or State income taxes. Where required by State or Federal law, the Contractor authorizes the County to withhold for any taxes other than income taxes (i.e., Medicare). All compensation received by the Contractor will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service at the end of the calendar year in accordance with the applicable IRS regulations. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to make the necessary estimated tax payments throughout the year, if any, and the Contractor is solely liable for any tax obligation arising from the Contractor's performance of this Agreement. The Contractor hereby agrees to indemnify the County against any demand to pay taxes arising from the Contractor's failure to pay taxes on compensation earned pursuant to this Agreement.

The County will pay sales and use taxes imposed on goods or services acquired hereunder as required by law. The Contractor must pay all other taxes, including, but not limited to, Business and Occupation Tax, taxes based on the Contractor's gross or net income, or personal property to which the County does not hold title. The County is exempt from Federal Excise Tax.

22.1 Withholding Payment:

In the event the County's Administrative Officer determines that the Contractor has failed to perform any obligation under this Agreement within the times set forth in this Agreement, then the County may withhold from amounts otherwise due and payable to Contractor the amount determined by the County as necessary to cure the default, until the Administrative Officer determines that such failure to perform has been cured. Withholding under this clause shall not be deemed a breach entitling Contractor to termination or damages, provided that the County promptly gives notice in writing to the Contractor of the nature of the default or failure to perform, and in no case more than 10 days after it determines to withhold amounts otherwise due. A determination of the Administrative Officer set forth in a notice to the Contractor of the action required and/or the amount required to cure any alleged failure to perform shall be deemed conclusive, except to the extent that the Contractor acts within the times and in strict accord with the provisions of the Disputes clause of this Agreement. The County may act in accordance with any determination of the Administrative Officer which has become conclusive under this clause, without prejudice to any other remedy under the Agreement, to take all or any of the following actions: (1) cure any failure or default, (2) to pay any amount so required to be paid and to charge the same to the account of the Contractor, (3) to set off any amount so paid or incurred from amounts due or to become due the Contractor. In the event the Contractor obtains relief upon a claim under the Disputes clause, no penalty or damages shall accrue to Contractor by reason of good faith withholding by the County under this clause.

23.1 Labor Standards:

The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable state and federal requirements, including but not limited to those pertaining to payment of wages and working conditions, in accordance with RCW 39.12.040, the Prevailing Wage Act; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Davis-Bacon Act; and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act providing for weekly payment of prevailing wages, minimum overtime pay, and providing that no laborer or mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to health and safety as determined by regulations promulgated by the Federal Secretary of Labor and the State of Washington.

**Series 30-39: Provisions Related to Administration of Agreement**

30.1 Independent Contractor:

The Contractor's services shall be furnished by the Contractor as an independent contractor, and nothing herein contained shall be construed to create a relationship of employer-employee or master-servant, but all payments made hereunder

and all services performed shall be made and performed pursuant to this Agreement by the Contractor as an independent contractor.

The Contractor acknowledges that the entire compensation for this Agreement is specified in Exhibit "B" and the Contractor is not entitled to any benefits including, but not limited to: vacation pay, holiday pay, sick leave pay, medical, dental, or other insurance benefits, or any other rights or privileges afforded to employees of the County. The Contractor represents that he/she/it maintains a separate place of business, serves clients other than the County, will report all income and expense accrued under this contract to the Internal Revenue Service, and has a tax account with the State of Washington Department of Revenue for payment of all sales and use and Business and Occupation taxes collected by the State of Washington.

Contractor will defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officers, agents or employees from any loss or expense, including, but not limited to, settlements, judgments, setoffs, attorneys' fees or costs incurred by reason of claims or demands because of breach of the provisions of this paragraph

30.2 Assignment and Subcontracting:

The performance of all activities contemplated by this agreement shall be accomplished by the Contractor. No portion of this contract may be assigned or subcontracted to any other individual, firm or entity without the express and prior written approval of the County.

30.3 No Guarantee of Employment:

The performance of all or part of this contract by the Contractor shall not operate to vest any employment rights whatsoever and shall not be deemed to guarantee any employment of the Contractor or any employee of the Contractor or any subcontractor or any employee of any subcontractor by the County at the present time or in the future.

31.1 Ownership of Items Produced and Public Records Act:

All writings, programs, data, public records or other materials prepared by the Contractor and/or its consultants or subcontractors, in connection with performance of this Agreement, shall be the sole and absolute property of the County. If the Contractor creates any copyrightable materials or invents any patentable property, the Contractor may copyright or patent the same, but the County retains a royalty-free, nonexclusive and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, recover, or otherwise use the materials or property and to authorize other governments to use the same for state or local governmental purposes. Contractor further agrees to make research, notes, and other work products produced in the performance of this Agreement available to the County upon request.

Ownership. Any and all data, writings, programs, public records, reports, analyses, documents, photographs, pamphlets, plans, specifications, surveys, films or any other materials created, prepared, produced, constructed, assembled, made, performed or otherwise produced by the Contractor or the Contractor's subcontractors or consultants for delivery to the County under this Contract shall be the sole and absolute property of the County. Such property shall constitute "work made for hire" as defined by the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, 17 U.S.C. § 101, and the ownership of the copyright and any other intellectual property rights in such property shall vest in the County at the time of its creation. Ownership of the intellectual property includes the right to copyright, patent, and register, and the ability to transfer these rights. Material which the Contractor uses to perform this Contract but is not created, prepared, constructed, assembled, made, performed or otherwise produced for or paid for by the County is owned by the Contractor and is not "work made for hire" within the terms of this Agreement.

Public Records Act. This Contract and all records associated with this Contract shall be available for inspection and copying by the public where required by the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW (the "Act"). To the extent that public records then in the custody of the Contractor are needed for the County to respond to a request under the Act, as determined by the County, the Contractor agrees to make them promptly available to the County at no cost to the County. If the Contractor considers any portion of any record provided to the County under this Agreement, whether in electronic or hard copy form, to be protected from disclosure under law, the Contractor shall clearly identify any specific information that it claims to be confidential or proprietary. If the County receives a request under the Act to inspect or copy the information so identified by the Contractor and the County determines that release of the information is required by the Act or otherwise appropriate, the County's sole obligations shall be to notify the Contractor (a) of the request and (b) of the date that such information will be released to the requester unless the Contractor obtains a court order to enjoin that disclosure pursuant to RCW 42.56.540. If the Contractor fails to timely obtain a court order enjoining disclosure, the County will release the requested information on the date specified.

The County has, and by this section assumes, no obligation on behalf of the Contractor to claim any exemption from disclosure under the Act. The County shall not be liable to the Contractor for releasing records not clearly identified by the Contractor as confidential or proprietary. The County shall not be liable to the Contractor for any records that the County releases in compliance with this section or in compliance with an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

The Contractor shall be liable to the requester for any and all fees, costs, penalties or damages imposed or alleged as a result of the Contractor's failure to provide adequate or timely records.

This provision and the obligations it establishes shall remain in effect after the expiration of this contract.

31.2 Patent/Copyright Infringement:

Contractor will defend and indemnify the County from any claimed action, cause or demand brought against the County, to the extent such action is based on the claim that information supplied by the Contractor infringes any patent or copyright. The Contractor will pay those costs and damages attributable to any such claims that are finally awarded against the County in any action. Such defense and payments are conditioned upon the following:

A. The Contractor shall be notified promptly in writing by the County of any notice of such claim.

B. Contractor shall have the right, hereunder, at its option and expense, to obtain for the County the right to continue using the information, in the event such claim of infringement, is made, provided no reduction in performance or loss results to the County.

32.1 Confidentiality:

The Contractor, its employees, subcontractors, and their employees shall maintain the confidentiality of all information provided by the County or acquired by the Contractor in performance of this Agreement, except upon the prior written consent of the County or an order entered by a court after having acquired jurisdiction over the County. Contractor shall immediately give to the County notice of any judicial proceeding seeking disclosure of such information. Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officials, agents or employees from all loss or expense, including, but not limited to, settlements, judgments, setoffs, attorneys' fees and costs resulting from Contractor's breach of this provision.

33.1 Right to Review:

This contract is subject to review by any Federal, State or County auditor. The County or its designee shall have the right to review and monitor the financial and service components of this program by whatever means are deemed expedient by the Administrative Officer or by the County Auditor's Office. Such review may occur with or without notice and may include, but is not limited to, on-site inspection by County agents or employees, inspection of all records or other materials which the County deems pertinent to the Agreement and its performance, and any and all communications with or evaluations by service recipients under this Agreement. The Contractor shall preserve and maintain all financial records and records relating to the performance of work under this Agreement for three (3) years after contract termination, and shall make them available for such review, within Whatcom County, State of Washington, upon request. Contractor also agrees to notify the Administrative Officer in advance of any inspections, audits, or program review by any individual, agency, or governmental unit whose purpose is to review the services provided within the terms of this Agreement. If no advance notice is given to the Contractor, then the Contractor agrees to notify the Administrative Officer as soon as it is practical.

34.1 Insurance

The Contractor shall, at its own expense, obtain and continuously maintain the following insurance coverage for the duration of this contract, which shall include insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damage to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, subcontractors or employees. All insurers providing such insurance shall have an A.M. Best Rating of not less than A- (or otherwise be acceptable to the County) and be licensed to do business in the State of Washington and admitted by the Washington State Insurance Commissioner. Coverage limits shall be the minimum limits identified in this Contract or the coverage limits provided or available under the policies maintained by the Contractor without regard to this Contract, whichever are greater.

**1. Commercial General Liability**

Property Damage	\$500,000.00, per occurrence
General Liability & bodily injury	\$1,000,000.00, per occurrence
Annual Aggregate	\$2,000,000.00

At least as broad as ISO form CG 00 01 or the equivalent, which coverage shall include personal injury, bodily injury and property damage for Premises Operations, Products and Completed Operations, Personal/Advertising Injury, Contractual Liability, Independent Contractor Liability, medical payments and Stop Gap/Employer's Liability. Coverage shall not exclude or contain sub-limits less than the minimum limits required, unless approved in writing by the County.

## **2. Business Automobile Liability**

\$1,000,000.00 Minimum, per occurrence  
\$2,000,000.00 Minimum, Annual Aggregate

Contractor shall provide auto liability coverage for owned, non-owned and hired autos using ISO Business Auto Coverage form CA 00 01 or the exact equivalent with a limit of no less than \$1,000,000 per accident. If Contractor owns no vehicles this requirement may be met through a non-owned auto Endorsement to the CGL policy.

## **3. Additional Insurance Requirements and Provisions**

- a. All insurance policies shall provide coverage on an occurrence basis.
- b. Additional Insureds. Whatcom County, its departments, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and volunteers shall be included as additional insureds on Contractor's and Contractor's subcontractors' insurance policies by way of endorsement for the full available limits of insurance required in this contract or maintained by the Contractor and subcontractor, whichever is greater.
- c. Primary and Non-contributory Insurance. Contractor shall provide primary insurance coverage and the County's insurance shall be non-contributory. Any insurance, self-insured retention, deductible, risk retention or insurance pooling maintained or participated in by the County shall be excess and non-contributory to Contractor's insurance.
- d. Waiver of Subrogation. The insurance policy shall provide a waiver of subrogation with respect to each insurance policy maintained under this Contract. When required by an insurer, or if a policy condition does not permit Contractor to enter into a pre-loss agreement to waive subrogation without an endorsement, then Contractor agrees to notify the insurer and obtain such endorsement. This requirement shall not apply to any policy which includes a condition expressly prohibiting waiver of subrogation by the insured or which voids coverage should the Contractor enter into such a waiver of subrogation on a pre-loss basis.
- e. Review of and Revision of Policy Provisions. Upon request, the Contractor shall provide a full and complete certified copy of all requested insurance policies to the County. The County reserves the right, but not the obligation, to revise any insurance requirement, including but not limited to limits, coverages and endorsements, or to reject any insurance policies which fail to meet the requirements of this Contract. Additionally, the County reserves the right, but not the obligation, to review and reject any proposed insurer providing coverage based upon the insurer's financial condition or licensing status in Washington.
- f. Verification of Coverage/Certificates and Endorsements. The Contractor shall furnish the County with a certificate of insurance and endorsements required by this contract. The certificates and endorsements for each policy shall be signed by a person authorized by the insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificate and endorsements for each insurance policy are to be on forms approved by the County prior to commencement of activities associated with the contract. The certificate and endorsements, and renewals thereof, shall be attached hereto as Exhibit "C". If Exhibit C is not attached, the Contractor must submit the certificate and endorsements required in this contract to the County prior to the commencement of any work on the contracted project. A certificate alone is insufficient proof of the required insurance; endorsements must be included with the certificate. The certificate of insurance must reflect the insurance required in this contract, including appropriate limits, insurance coverage dates, per occurrence, and in the description of operations, include the County project, Whatcom County, its departments, officials, employees, agents and volunteers as additional insureds, primary, non-contributory, and waiver of subrogation.
- g. The County must be notified immediately in writing of any cancellation of the policy, exhaustion of aggregate limits, notice of intent not to renew insurance coverage, expiration of policy or change in insurer carrier.



Contractor shall always provide the County with a current copy of the certificate and endorsements throughout the duration of the contract.

- h. No Limitation on Liability. The insurance maintained under this Contract shall not in any manner limit the liability or qualify the liabilities or obligations of the Contractor to the coverage provided by such insurance, or otherwise limit the County's recourse to any remedy available at law or equity.
  - i. Payment Conditioned on Insurance and Failure to Maintain Insurance. Compensation and/or payments due to the Contractor under this Contract are expressly conditioned upon the Contractor's compliance with all insurance requirements. Failure on the part of the Contractor to maintain the insurance as required shall constitute a material breach of contract. Payment to the Contractor may be suspended in the event of non-compliance, upon which the County may, after giving five business days' notice to the Contractor to correct the breach, immediately terminate the contract or, at its discretion, procure or renew such insurance and pay any and all premiums in connection therewith, with any sums so expended to be repaid to the County on demand or offset against funds due the Contractor. Upon receipt of evidence of Contractor's compliance, payments not otherwise subject to withholding or set-off will be released to the Contractor.
  - j. Workers' Compensation. The Contractor shall maintain Workers' Compensation coverage as required under the Washington State Industrial Insurance Act, RCW Title 51, for all Contractors' employees, agents and volunteers eligible for such coverage under the Industrial Insurance Act.
  - k. Failure of the Contractor to take out and/or maintain required insurance shall not relieve the Contractor or subcontractors from any liability under the contract, nor shall the insurance requirements be construed to conflict with or otherwise limit the obligations concerning indemnification. The County does not waive any insurance requirements even in the event the certificate or endorsements provided by the Contractor were insufficient or inadequate proof of coverage but not objected to by the County. The County's failure to confirm adequate proof of insurance requirements does not constitute a waiver of the Contractor's insurance requirements under this Contract.
  - l. Availability of Contractor Limits. If the Contractor maintains higher insurance limits than the minimums shown above, the County shall be insured for the full available limits, including Excess or Umbrella liability maintained by the Contractor, irrespective of whether such limits maintained by the Contractor are greater than those required by this contract or whether any certificate furnished to the County evidences limits of liability lower than those maintained by the Contractor.
  - m. Insurance for Subcontractors. If the Contractor subcontracts (if permitted in the contract) any portion of this Contract, the Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies or shall require separate certificates of insurance and policy endorsements from each subcontractor. Insurance coverages by subcontractors must comply with the insurance requirements of the Contractor in this contract and shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein, including naming the County as additional insured.
  - n. The Contractor agrees Contractor's insurance obligation shall survive the completion or termination of this Contract for a minimum period of three years.
- 34.3 Defense & Indemnity Agreement. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold the County and its departments, elected and appointed officials, employees, agents and volunteers, harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to court costs, attorney's fees, and alternative dispute resolution costs, for any personal injury, for any bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death and for any damage to or destruction of any property (including the loss of use resulting therefrom) which: 1) are caused in whole or in part by any error, act or omission, negligent or otherwise, of the Contractor, its employees, agents or volunteers or Contractor's subcontractors and their employees, agents or volunteers; or 2) directly or indirectly arise out of or occur in connection with performance of this Contract or 3) are based upon the Contractor's or its subcontractors' use of,

presence upon, or proximity to the property of the County. This indemnification obligation of the Contractor shall not apply in the limited circumstance where the claim, damage, loss, or expense is caused by the sole negligence of the County.

Should a court of competent jurisdiction determine that this contract is subject to RCW 4.24.115, then in the event of concurrent negligence of the Contractor, its subcontractors, employees or agents, and the County, its employees or agents, this indemnification obligation of the Contractor shall be valid and enforceable only to the extent of the negligence of the Contractor, its subcontractors, employees, and agents. This indemnification obligation of the Contractor shall not be limited in any way by the Washington State Industrial Insurance Act, RCW Title 51, or by application of any other workmen's compensation act, disability benefit act or other employee benefit act, and the Contractor hereby expressly waives any immunity afforded by such acts.

It is further provided that no liability shall attach to the County by reason of entering into this contract, except as expressly provided herein. The parties specifically agree that this Contract is for the benefit of the parties only and this Contract shall create no rights in any third party. The County reserves the right, but not the obligation, to participate in the defense of any claim, damages, losses, or expenses, and such participation shall not constitute a waiver of Contractor's indemnity obligations under this Agreement.

In the event the Contractor enters into subcontracts to the extent allowed under this Contract, the Contractor's subcontractors shall indemnify the County on a basis equal to or exceeding Contractor's indemnity obligations to the County. The Contractor shall pay all attorney's fees and expenses incurred by the County in establishing and enforcing the County's rights under this indemnification provision, whether or not suit was instituted.

The Contractor agrees all Contractor's indemnity obligations shall survive the completion, expiration or termination of this Agreement. The foregoing indemnification obligations of the Contractor are a material inducement to County to enter into this Agreement and are reflected in the Contractor's compensation.

By signing this contract, the Contractor acknowledges that it has freely negotiated and agreed to the indemnification requirements to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County from all claims and suits including those brought against the County by the Contractor's own employees, arising from this contract.

35.1 Non-Discrimination in Employment:

The County's policy is to provide equal opportunity in all terms, conditions and privileges of employment for all qualified applicants and employees without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation (including gender identity), age, marital status, disability, or veteran status. The Contractor shall comply with all laws prohibiting discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment on the grounds of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation (including gender identity), age, marital status, disability, political affiliation, or veteran status, except where such constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification.

Furthermore, in those cases in which the Contractor is governed by such laws, the Contractor shall take affirmative action to insure that applicants are employed, and treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation (including gender identity), disability, or veteran status, except where such constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification. Such action shall include, but not be limited to: advertising, hiring, promotions, layoffs or terminations, rate of pay or other forms of compensation benefits, selection for training including apprenticeship, and participation in recreational and educational activities. In all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by them or on their behalf, the Contractor shall state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The foregoing provisions shall also be binding upon any subcontractor, provided that the foregoing provision shall not apply to contracts or subcontractors for standard commercial supplies or raw materials, or to sole proprietorships with no employees.

35.2 Non-Discrimination in Client Services:

The Contractor shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation (including gender identity), disability, or veteran status; or deny an individual or business any service or

benefits under this Agreement unless otherwise allowed by applicable law; or subject an individual or business to segregation or separate treatment in any manner related to his/her/its receipt any service or services or other benefits provided under this Agreement unless otherwise allowed by applicable law; or deny an individual or business an opportunity to participate in any program provided by this Agreement unless otherwise allowed by applicable law.

36.1 Waiver of Noncompetition:

Contractor irrevocably waives any existing rights which it may have, by contract or otherwise, to require another person or corporation to refrain from submitting a proposal to or performing work or providing supplies to the County, and contractor further promises that it will not in the future, directly or indirectly, induce or solicit any person or corporation to refrain from submitting a bid or proposal to or from performing work or providing supplies to the County.

36.2 Conflict of Interest:

If at any time prior to commencement of, or during the term of this Agreement, Contractor or any of its employees involved in the performance of this Agreement shall have or develop an interest in the subject matter of this Agreement that is potentially in conflict with the County's interest, then Contractor shall immediately notify the County of the same. The notification of the County shall be made with sufficient specificity to enable the County to make an informed judgment as to whether or not the County's interest may be compromised in any manner by the existence of the conflict, actual or potential. Thereafter, the County may require the Contractor to take reasonable steps to remove the conflict of interest. The County may also terminate this contract according to the provisions herein for termination.

37.1 Administration of Contract:

This Agreement shall be subject to all laws, rules, and regulations of the United States of America, the State of Washington, and political subdivisions of the State of Washington. The Contractor also agrees to comply with applicable federal, state, county or municipal standards for licensing, certification and operation of facilities and programs, and accreditation and licensing of individuals.

The County hereby appoints, and the Contractor hereby accepts, the Whatcom County Executive, and his or her designee, as the County's representative, hereinafter referred to as the Administrative Officer, for the purposes of administering the provisions of this Agreement, including the County's right to receive and act on all reports and documents, and any auditing performed by the County related to this Agreement. The Administrative Officer for purposes of this agreement is:

Whatcom County Health and Community Services  
Jane Oliphant, Housing Program Specialist

37.2 Notice:

Any notices or communications required or permitted to be given by this Contract must be (i) given in writing and (ii) personally delivered or mailed, by prepaid, certified mail or overnight courier, or transmitted by electronic mail transmission (including PDF), to the party to whom such notice or communication is directed, to the mailing address or regularly-monitored electronic mail address of such party as follows:

Whatcom County Health and Community Services  
Jane Oliphant, Housing Program Specialist  
509 Girard Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225  
[Joliphant@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:Joliphant@co.whatcom.wa.us)

Ferndale Community Services  
Sara O'Connor, Executive Director  
PO Box 2205  
Ferndale, WA 98248  
[sara@ferndalecs.org](mailto:sara@ferndalecs.org)

Any such notice or communication shall be deemed to have been given on (i) the day such notice or communication is personally delivered, (ii) three (3) days after such notice or communication is mailed by prepaid certified or registered mail, (iii) one (1) working day after such notice or communication is sent by overnight courier, or (iv) the day such notice or communication is sent electronically, provided that the sender has received a confirmation of such electronic transmission. A party may, for purposes of this Agreement, change his, her or its address, email address or the person to whom a notice or other communication is marked to the attention of, by giving notice of such change to the other party pursuant to this Section.

37.3 If agreed by the parties, this Contract may be executed by Email transmission and PDF signature and Email transmission and PDF signature shall constitute an original for all purposes.

38.1 Certification of Public Works Contractor's Status under State Law:

If applicable, Contractor certifies that it has fully met the responsibility criteria required of public works contractors under RCW 39.04.350 (1), which include: (a) having a certificate of registration in compliance with RCW 18.27; (b) having a current state unified business identifier number; (c) if applicable, having industrial insurance coverage for its employees working in Washington as required in Title 51 RCW, an employment security department number as required in Title 50 RCW, and a state excise tax registration number as required in Title 82 RCW; and (d) not being disqualified from bidding on any public works contract under RCW 39.06.010 or 39.12.065 (3).

38.2 Certification Regarding Federal Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions:

If applicable, the Contractor further certifies, by executing this contract, that neither it nor its principles is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or Agency.

The Contractor also agrees that it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transactions (a transaction between the Contractor and any other person) with a person who is proposed for debarment, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, and the Contractor agrees to include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Federal Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transaction" without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier transactions.

The "Excluded Parties List System in the System for Award Management (SAM) website is available to research this information at WWW.SAM.GOV. Contractor shall immediately notify Whatcom County if, during the term of this Contract, Contractor becomes debarred.

38.3 E-Verify:

The E-Verify contractor program for Whatcom County applies to contracts of \$100,000 or more and sub contracts for \$25,000 or more if the primary contract is for \$100,000 or more. If applicable, Contractor represents and warrants that it will, for at least the duration of this contract, register and participate in the status verification system for all newly hired employees. The term "employee" as used herein means any person that is hired to perform work for Whatcom County. As used herein, "status verification system" means the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 that is operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, also known as the E-Verify Program, or any other successor electronic verification system replacing the E-Verify Program. Contractor/Seller agrees to maintain records of such compliance and, upon request of the County, to provide a copy of each such verification to the County. Contractor/Seller further represents and warrants that any person assigned to perform services hereunder meets the employment eligibility requirements of all immigration laws of the State of Washington. Contractor/Seller understands and agrees that any breach of these warranties may subject Contractor/Seller to the following: (a) termination of this Agreement and ineligibility for any Whatcom County contract for up to three (3) years, with notice of such cancellation/termination being made public. In the event of such termination/cancellation, Contractor/Seller would also be liable for any additional costs incurred by the County due to contract cancellation or loss of license or permit." Contractor will review and enroll in the E-Verify program through this website: [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)

**Series 40-49: Provisions Related to Interpretation of Agreement and Resolution of Disputes**

40.1 Modifications:

Either party may request changes in the Agreement. Any and all agreed modifications, to be valid and binding upon either party, shall be in writing and signed by both of the parties.

40.2 Contractor Commitments, Warranties and Representations:

Any written commitment received from the Contractor concerning this Agreement shall be binding upon the Contractor, unless otherwise specifically provided herein with reference to this paragraph. Failure of the Contractor to fulfill such a commitment shall render the Contractor liable for damages to the County. A commitment includes, but is not limited to, any representation made prior to execution of this Agreement, whether or not incorporated elsewhere herein by reference,

as to performance of services or equipment, prices or options for future acquisition to remain in effect for a fixed period, or warranties.

41.1 Severability:

If any term or condition of this contract or the application thereof to any person(s) or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other terms, conditions or applications which can be given effect without the invalid term, condition or application. To this end, the terms and conditions of this contract are declared severable.

41.2 Waiver:

Waiver of any breach or condition of this contract shall not be deemed a waiver of any prior or subsequent breach. No term or condition of this contract shall be held to be waived, modified or deleted except by an instrument, in writing, signed by the parties hereto. The failure of the County to insist upon strict performance of any of the covenants and agreements of this Agreement, or to exercise any option herein conferred in any one or more instances, shall not be construed to be a waiver or relinquishment of any such, or any other covenants or agreements, but the same shall be and remain in full force and effect.

42.1 Disputes:

a. General:

Differences between the Contractor and the County, arising under and by virtue of the Contract Documents, shall be brought to the attention of the County at the earliest possible time in order that such matters may be settled or other appropriate action promptly taken. Except for such objections as are made of record in the manner hereinafter specified and within the time limits stated, the records, orders, rulings, instructions, and decisions of the Administrative Officer shall be final and conclusive.

b. Notice of Potential Claims:

The Contractor shall not be entitled to additional compensation which otherwise may be payable, or to extension of time for (1) any act or failure to act by the Administrative Officer or the County, or (2) the happening of any event or occurrence, unless the Contractor has given the County a written Notice of Potential Claim within ten (10) days of the commencement of the act, failure, or event giving rise to the claim, and before final payment by the County. The written Notice of Potential Claim shall set forth the reasons for which the Contractor believes additional compensation or extension of time is due, the nature of the cost involved, and insofar as possible, the amount of the potential claim. Contractor shall keep full and complete daily records of the work performed, labor and material used, and all costs and additional time claimed to be additional.

c. Detailed Claim:

The Contractor shall not be entitled to claim any such additional compensation, or extension of time, unless within thirty (30) days of the accomplishment of the portion of the work from which the claim arose, and before final payment by the County, the Contractor has given the County a detailed written statement of each element of cost or other compensation requested and of all elements of additional time required, and copies of any supporting documents evidencing the amount or the extension of time claimed to be due.

d. Arbitration:

Other than claims for injunctive relief, temporary restraining order, or other provisional remedy to preserve the status quo or prevent irreparable harm, brought by a party hereto (which may be brought either in court or pursuant to this arbitration provision), and consistent with the provisions hereinabove, any claim, dispute or controversy between the parties under, arising out of, or related to this Contract or otherwise, including issues of specific performance, shall be determined by arbitration in Bellingham, Washington, under the applicable American Arbitration Association (AAA) rules in effect on the date hereof, as modified by this Agreement. There shall be one arbitrator selected by the parties within ten (10) days of the arbitration demand, or if not, by the AAA or any other group having similar credentials. Any issue about whether a claim is covered by this Contract shall be determined by the arbitrator. The arbitrator shall apply substantive law and may award injunctive relief, equitable relief (including specific performance), or any other remedy available from a judge but shall not have the power to award punitive damages. Each Party shall pay all their own costs, attorney fees and expenses of arbitration and the parties shall share equally in the Arbitrator's fees and costs. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding and an order confirming the award or judgment upon the award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. The parties agree that the decision of the arbitrator shall be the sole and exclusive remedy between them regarding any dispute presented or pled before the arbitrator. At the

request of either party made not later than forty-five (45) days after the arbitration demand, the parties agree to submit the dispute to nonbinding mediation, which shall not delay the arbitration hearing date; provided, that either party may decline to mediate and proceed with arbitration.

Any arbitration proceeding commenced to enforce or interpret this Contract shall be brought within six years after the initial occurrence giving rise to the claim, dispute, or issue for which arbitration is commenced, regardless of the date of discovery or whether the claim, dispute, or issue was continuing in nature. Claims, disputes, or issues arising more than six years prior to a written request or demand for arbitration issued under this Contract are not subject to arbitration.

- e. The parties may agree in writing signed by both parties that a claim or dispute may be brought in Whatcom County Superior Court rather than mediation or arbitration.

*Unless otherwise specified herein, this Contract shall be governed by the laws of Whatcom County and the State of Washington.*

43.1 Venue and Choice of Law:

In the event that any litigation should arise concerning the construction or interpretation of any of the terms of this Agreement, the venue of such action of litigation shall be in the courts of the State of Washington in and for the County of Whatcom. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Washington.

44.1 Survival:

The provisions of paragraphs 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 21.1, 22.1, 30.1, 31.1, 31.2, 32.1, 33.1, 34.2, 34.3, 36.1, 40.2, 41.2, 42.1, and 43.1, if utilized, shall survive, notwithstanding the termination or invalidity of this Agreement for any reason.

45.1 Entire Agreement:

This written Agreement, comprised of the writings signed or otherwise identified and attached hereto, represents the entire Agreement between the parties and supersedes any prior oral statements, discussions or understandings between the parties.

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
(SCOPE OF WORK)

**I. Background and Purpose**

Funding for this contract will help eligible, at-risk households with children who are severely cost-burdened with rent and childcare expenses, to stabilize their finances and provide healthier environments for children in their custody and to receive housing case management support for up to one year from program enrollment. Funds will also be used to facilitate the transition from unsafe and/or shared housing arrangements, to independent housing for income-qualified families with children who are engaged with supportive services.

This contract supports Strategy 8 of the Healthy Children's Fund (HCF) Implementation Plan, intended to support vulnerable children by increasing housing stability for families with (or expecting) children who are five years old or younger, in order to reduce homelessness among low-income Whatcom County families with young children. The strategy's purpose is to reduce negative health outcomes that result from the stress and trauma that is associated with housing stability and to increase the well-being of children in those households.

**II. Statement of Work**

The contractor will:

- a. Implement a referral system with North Whatcom County school districts, Bridge 2 Services, and the Ferndale Community Resource Center as a way to identify and engage eligible participants.
  1. The Contractor's Executive Director will:
    - a. Develop and evaluate referral sources in an effort to broaden outreach and increase equity.
    - b. Meet with County staff and networked partner agency staff to share feedback and support shared learning.
- c. Conduct an intake assessment with each family participating to assess their strengths and barriers to achieving housing stability.
- d. Provide a combination of short-term supportive services and rental assistance for up to 50 eligible families to promote housing stability. The Contractor's Executive Director will provide supervisory support for staff, as it relates to implementation of this program. Services may include providing:
  1. Case management: Assistance with establishing and working through goals related to housing and financial stability.
  2. Direct housing payment assistance:
    - a. Up to 3 months per family of direct housing assistance of up to 150% of the federal government's applicable Fair Market Rent (FMR) or Small Area FMR (SAFMR) towards rent or mortgage payments, and/or up to 3 months of rental/mortgage arrears.
    - b. Other housing-related expenses, such as: security deposits, application fees, utility deposits and arrears, and other move-in related fees.

3. Up to \$1,000 per family in flexible funds in pursuit of housing security or financial security over a 12-month period.
  - a. Flexible funds may be used to purchase goods or services directly related to the service needs of the clients as described in Exhibit D.
4. Assistance to families in enrolling in other social safety net programs such as: SSDI, TANF, Medicaid, SNAP, etc.
5. Referrals to external providers as appropriate.
- e. When financially supporting a participant to move into a new unit, the contractor must ensure that the unit meets housing habitability standards using the Washington State Department of Commerce's [Housing Habitability Standards Form](#).
- f. Maintain contact with participants for up to 12 months (as permitted by the contract end date) from the point of initial assessment, to provide the services outlined above and to track participant outcomes.
- g. Complete an exit summary detailing the client's progress towards housing stability for each household, upon program exit.
- h. Maintain client files and case notes for program participants. Client files will be securely stored and available for review by Whatcom County Health and Community Services staff.
- i. Be trained in trauma-informed care and motivational interviewing within 6 months of contract start date.
- j. Comply with state and federal confidentiality laws and regulations.

### III. Program Requirements

The Contractor will:

- a. Use the Washington State Department of Commerce's income eligibility worksheet to calculate participants' income upon program entry:  
<https://deptofcommerce.app.box.com/s/grvjrobru7ve6dlxyz3uulnd93uyr1f4>
- b. Abide by the following set of program requirements for participant eligibility. An eligible household must meet eligibility criteria for either Groups 1, 2 or 3 and also meet all criteria described in section 4., below:
  - 1. Group 1: Severely cost-burdened families with children:**
    - a. Family has legal tenancy in a housing unit (either renting or through home ownership) but is paying 50% or more of gross income towards housing and childcare costs. Documentation must include copy of lease or statement of account with landlord and/or billing statement from childcare provider, and income certification form.
  - 2. Group 2: Precariously housed families with children:**
    - a. Family is not on a lease, or does not own their own home, and cannot otherwise receive housing services through the Whatcom County Coordinated Entry system due to ineligibility or unsuccessful attempts to access support. Such families might include, for example, a family "doubled up" or "couch surfing" with another family, but would not



typically include families who are staying in emergency shelters or residing in places not intended for human habitation for extended periods of time.

- b. Family would need to spend 50% or more of their gross income towards housing costs based on the applicable year's FMR and standard occupancy:

Family size	Bedrooms	FY24 Fair Market Rent (FMR)	Max Monthly Income (2x rent)	Max Annual Income
1-2	1	\$1,306	\$2,612	\$31,344
3-4	2	\$1,571	\$3,142	\$37,704
5-6	3	\$2,214	\$4,428	\$53,136
7-8	4	\$2,666	\$5,332	\$63,984
9-10	5	\$3,066	\$6,132	\$73,582

**3. Group 3: Overcrowded family:**

- a. Family may be on a lease or own their home, but have more than two occupants per bedroom, for example, a family of three living in a 1-bedroom unit, or a family of five living in a 2-bedroom unit.
- b. Family would spend 50% or more of their gross income towards housing costs based on the applicable year's FMR and standard occupancy:

Family size	Bedrooms	FY24 Fair Market Rent (FMR)	Max Monthly Income (2x rent)	Max Annual Income
1-2	1	\$1,306	\$2,612	\$31,344
3-4	2	\$1,571	\$3,142	\$37,704
5-6	3	\$2,214	\$4,428	\$53,136
7-8	4	\$2,666	\$5,332	\$63,984
9-10	5	\$3,066	\$6,132	\$73,582

**4. For all groups, participants must:**

- a. Reside in Whatcom County.
- b. Have at least one child in the household between the ages of 0 and 5 years old or be a pregnant person upon program entry.
- c. Agree to only participate in a Healthy Children's Fund supported program, but not to be a recipient of similar services delivered simultaneously through Opportunity Council's eviction prevention program, or be enrolled in housing programs referred through the coordinated entry system. This agreement must be documented using a Whatcom County-approved form.

#### IV. Reporting Requirements

- a. The contractor will provide a service data report on a twice-yearly basis (, in a format approved by the county. The Contractor's Executive Director will ensure that accurate data collection and timely reporting consistently protects the privacy of participating households. The report will include:
  1. Program participation data during the reporting period including:
    - a. Number of households enrolled
    - b. Number of households enrolled by group type
    - c. Referral source for all participants enrolled
    - d. Total number of households served
    - e. Number of children served
    - f. Number of total households on the last day of the reporting period who are actively receiving case management services (where "actively" is operationalized by one or more meetings in the last month)
    - g. Average income of households at program entry who enrolled
    - h. Race and ethnicity of heads of households enrolled
    - i. Primary language spoken at home for households enrolled
    - j. Zip code upon entry for enrolled households
  2. Outcome data for families who have exited the program during the reporting period including:
    - a. Number of households who exited program by group type
    - b. By program type: Number of households who would still qualify for program entry (ie, if a person entered in group 1, they would no longer qualify because their housing and childcare costs have gone down, or their income has gone up)
    - c. Number of households who received rental assistance and average amount per family
    - d. Number of households who receive mortgage assistance and average amount per family
    - e. Number of households who ever received flexible funds:
      - i. Average amount of assistance
      - ii. Top 5 categories of how flexible funds were used
    - f. Percent of heads of households who reported an increase in their financial stability
    - g. Percent of heads of households who reported feeling satisfied or very satisfied with their program outcome
    - h. Narrative report: Brief (1- to 2-paragraph) narrative discussion of a family who participated in the program with a positive outcome, and one family that had a negative outcome, if applicable. Please include a brief description of the strengths and weakness of the program model overall and experiences with implementation of the contract.
    - i. Self-report: For case management services, rate 1-5 the degree to which enrolled households have engaged in services, where:

- i. 1 is none or few people have accessed resource or service (less than 25% of resource or service capacity used)
  - ii. 2 is some people are using resources or services (25-50% of resource or service capacity used)
  - iii. 3 is resources and services are used consistently but more people could be served (50-75% of resource or service capacity used)
  - iv. 4 is resources and services are well utilized and sometimes full (75 to 100% of resource or service capacity used)
  - v. 5 is resources and services consistently full and people are frequently wait-listed or turned away (demand for services/resources is beyond capacity)
  - vi. Where the rating is 3 or less, offer a brief explanation.
- b. Additionally, at the end of the initial contract term (December 31, 2025) and the final contract term (as applicable), the contractor will provide a report(s) for all participants who exited the program over the course of the contract term. The report(s) will include the following:
  - 1. Narrative Report: A brief (1- to 2-paragraph) narrative discussion of experiences with implementation. In the narrative, please include a description of the strengths and weakness of the program model overall and experiences with implementation of the contract.
  - 2. Of the households receiving flex funds, the top five (5) categories of how flex funds were used.
  - 3. Broken out by race, ethnicity and language spoken at home:
    - a. Number of households who exited program by program type
    - b. By program type: Number of households who would still qualify for program services (ie, if a person entered in group 1, they would no longer qualify because their housing and childcare costs have gone down, or their income has gone up)
    - c. Number of households who received rental assistance and average amount
    - d. Number of households who receive mortgage assistance and average amount
    - e. Number of households who ever received flexible funds
      - i. Average amount of assistance
    - f. Percent of heads of households who reported an increase in their financial stability
    - g. Percent of heads of households who reported feeling satisfied or very satisfied with their program outcome

## V. Flex Funding

Flex funds must follow the Guidelines established by the County and be reported on the spreadsheet provided by the County (Exhibit D) and signed by an authorized signatory. In addition, all flex fund reimbursement requests must be accompanied by receipts and an updated copy of flex funds spreadsheet.

- a. The Contractor's Executive Director will provide oversight of flex fund use prior to request of flex fund reimbursement.

**EXHIBIT "B"**  
(COMPENSATION)

I. **Budget and Source of Funding:** The source of funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$376,416, is the Healthy Children’s Fund. The budget for this contract is as follows:

Cost Description	Documents Required with Each Invoice	Budget
*Personnel ( <i>salary, taxes, benefits</i> ): Community Resource Navigator (.5 FT, moving to 1 FT 1/1/25) Resource Center Program Navigator (.5FT) Executive Director (.25 FT)	GL Detail	\$177,347
**Office supplies	GL Detail and copies of paid invoices or receipts; cost allocation plan where applicable	\$1,800
**/**Equipment (technology, furniture, etc.)		\$1,800
**Other agency costs (utilities, insurance, etc.)		\$7,200
Staff travel/mileage at GSA rate	See Exhibit B 1. (6.c and 6.d)	\$4,050
Flex funds	Flex Fund Spreadsheet and copies of receipts	\$50,000
**Direct Housing Assistance	Expanded GL report for the period plus documentation including client ID, payee, and amount of payment	\$100,000
<b>Direct Costs SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$342,197</b>
HCF Indirect @ 10%		\$34,219
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$376,416</b>

- \* The Contractor must maintain time sheets accounting for all time and identifying direct hours for the activities described in Exhibit A.
- \*\* All direct costs must be related solely to this program or based on approved cost allocation plan.
- \*\*\* Equipment expenses exceeding \$500 must be pre-approved in writing by the County’s Contract Administrator.

Contractor’s Invoicing Contact Information:	
<b>Name</b>	Sara O’Connor
<b>Phone</b>	360-380-2200
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:sara@ferndalecs.org">sara@ferndalecs.org</a>

**Refer to Exhibits B.1 and B.2 for additional invoicing requirements and information.**

## EXHIBIT “B.1” – Invoicing – General Requirements

1. When applicable, the contractor may transfer funds among budget line items in an amount not to exceed 10% of the total budget. Line item changes that exceed 10% must be pre-approved by the County Contract Administrator, prior to invoicing.
2. When applicable, indirect costs and fringe benefit cost rates may not exceed the amount indicated in Exhibit B or the Contractor’s federally approved indirect cost rate.
3. The Contractor shall submit invoices indicating the County-assigned contract number to:  
[HL-BusinessOffice@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:HL-BusinessOffice@co.whatcom.wa.us), [joliphan@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:joliphan@co.whatcom.wa.us) and [CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us)
4. The Contractor shall submit itemized invoices on a monthly basis in a format approved by the County and by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, following the month of service, except for January and July where the same is due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.
5. When applicable, the Contractor will utilize grant funding sources in the order of their expiration date as indicated by the County, prior to spending local funding sources, when no funding restrictions prevent doing so.
6. The contractor shall submit the required invoice documentation identified in Exhibit B.
  - a. The County reserves the right to request additional documentation in order to determine eligible costs. Additional documentation must be received within 10 business days of the County’s request.
  - b. When applicable, if GL reports for personnel reimbursement do not specify position titles, additional documentation must be provided that includes staff name and position title.
  - c. When applicable, mileage will be reimbursed at the current GSA rate ([www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov)). Reimbursement requests for mileage must include:
    1. Name of staff member
    2. Date of travel
    3. Starting address (including zip code) and ending address (including zip code)
    4. Number of miles traveled
  - d. When applicable, travel and/or training expenses will be reimbursed as follows:
    1. Lodging and meal costs for training are not to exceed the current GSA rate ([www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov)), specific to location.
    2. Ground transportation, coach airfare and ferries will be reimbursed at cost when accompanied by receipts.
    3. Reimbursement requests for allowable travel and/or training must include:
      - a. Name of staff member
      - b. Dates of travel
      - c. Starting point and destination
      - d. Brief description of purpose
      - e. Receipts for registration fees or other documentation of professional training expenses.
      - f. Receipts for meals are not required.
7. Payment by the County will be considered timely if it is made within 30 days of the receipt and acceptance of billing information from the Contractor.
8. The County may withhold payment of an invoice if the Contractor submits it or the required invoice documentation, more than 30 days after the month of services performed and/or the expiration of this contract.
9. Invoices must include the following statement, with an authorized signature and date: **I certify that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered, or the labor performed as described on this invoice.**
10. Duplication of billed costs or payments for service: The Contractor shall not bill the County for services performed or provided under this contract, and the County shall not pay the Contractor, if the Contractor has been or will be paid by any other source, including grants, for those costs used to perform or provide the services in this contract. The Contractor is responsible for any audit exceptions or disallowed amounts paid as a result of this contract.

## EXHIBIT "B.2" – Invoice Preparation Checklist For Vendors

The County intends to pay you promptly. Below is a checklist to ensure your payment will be processed quickly. Provide this to the best person in your company for ensuring invoice quality control.

- Send the invoices to the correct address:  
[HL-BusinessOffice@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:HL-BusinessOffice@co.whatcom.wa.us), [joliphan@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:joliphan@co.whatcom.wa.us) and [CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us)
- Submit invoices monthly, or as otherwise indicated in your contract.

### Verify that:

- the time period for services performed is clearly stated and within the contract term beginning and end dates. Also verify any other dates identified in the contract, such as annual funding allocations;
- invoice items have not been previously billed or paid, given the time period for which services were performed;
- enough money remains on the contract and any amendments to pay the invoice;
- the invoice is organized by task and budget line item as shown in Exhibit B;
- the Overhead or Indirect Rate costs match the most current approved rate sheet;
- the direct charges on the invoice are allowable by contract. Eliminate unallowable costs.
- personnel named are explicitly allowed for within the contract and the Labor Rates match the most current approved rate sheet;
- back-up documentation matches what is required as stated in Exhibit B and B.1;
- contract number is referenced on the invoice;
- any pre-authorizations or relevant communication with the County Contract Administrator is included; and
- Check the math.

### Whatcom County will not reimburse for:

- Alcohol or tobacco products;
- Traveling Business or First Class; or
- Indirect expenses exceeding 10% except as approved in an indirect or overhead rate agreement.

**EXHIBIT "C"**  
(CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE)

**EXHIBIT "D"**  
(FLEX FUND GUIDELINES)

"Flex funds" are funds that may be used at the discretion of the Contractor, following the policies described below, to purchase goods or services directly related to the service needs of the Contractor's clients, when no other funding source is available. **Such goods or services must be reasonable and necessary to meet a client's emergent service needs or contribute to the stabilization or self-sufficiency of the client.**

**Allowable Costs:** Allowable uses of client-specific expenditures of flex funds include the following:

- Clothing
- Food
- Housing/rental assistance
- Bus passes or taxi fare
- Car repairs
- Driver's license or ID card fees
- Educational or training program registration fees
- Household supplies, including furniture
- Medications
- Health care
- Other, as approved by Whatcom County

**Limitations:** Flex fund expenditures must be within the allowable criteria established by the County, as identified above, must be based upon the service needs as documented in the client's individual service plan, and must have no other funding available from any other source.

Flex funds distributed to any one client cannot exceed \$1,000 per twelve-month period, except with written authorization from the County. No flex fund disbursements are to be made directly to the client but rather will be made on behalf of a client. Flex funds may not be used to purchase retailer or merchant gift cards, vouchers, or certificates that can be exchanged for cash or that allow the recipient to purchase alcohol, tobacco, or cannabis products.

**Documentation:** Requests for reimbursement of flex funds must include the attached form including the following:

- A. The person or organization funds were paid to.
- B. Date of transaction.
- C. A list of the goods and/or services purchased.
- D. The cost of the goods and/or services purchased.
- E. The initials of the client and/or unique identifying number of the client for whom the goods and/or services were purchased.
- F. The total amount of flex funds distributed to the client during the year.
- G. The service need addressed by the expenditure.
- H. Accompanying invoices and/or receipts.
- I. Evidence of administrative review of expenditures

**See Attached Form**



<b>Contractor: Ferndale Community Services</b>			<b>Contract: Healthy Children's Fund Housing</b>			<b>Period:</b>		
<b>Whatcom County Health and Community Services Flex Fund Documentation</b>								
<b>Paid To *</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Goods/Services Purchased</b>	<b>Client ID</b>	<b>Total \$ To Client Over Last 12 Months</b>	<b>Service Need</b>	<b>No Other Funding Available (Y/N)</b>	<b>Administrative Review (Initials)</b>
<b>* ATTACH RECEIPTS FOR EACH PURCHASE</b>								