



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** Lifeline Connections – Jail Behavioral Health and Re-entry Services  
Contract Amendment #1

**DATE:** January 12, 2022

---

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Lifeline Connections for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for adult behavioral health services in the Whatcom County Jail and Work Center. Services provided under this contract include crisis stabilization and connection to behavioral health services for people releasing to the community with behavioral health problems. The contractor that had been providing these services since 2013 experienced a serious reduction in staff and informed the County that they did not intend to provide these services in Whatcom County after 2021.

An RFP for these services was advertised for a contract intended to begin in 2022, but with the withdrawal from services by the existing contractor, the new contractor, Lifeline Connections, agreed to begin immediate, limited services on 11/01/2021. This amendment extends the contract through 2022 and replaces the limited scope of work with one that outlines responsibilities for providing comprehensive jail behavioral health and re-entry services.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract period may not exceed \$604,882. Funding is provided by the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization Jail Services and Behavioral Health Program Funds. These funds are included in the 2022 budget. Council approval is required as the additional funding provided by this amendment exceeds 10% of the approved budget.

Please contact Jackie Mitchell, Program Specialist at 360-778-6048 ([JMitchel@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:JMitchel@co.whatcom.wa.us)) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 ([KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us)), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

