WHATCOM COUNTY CONTRACT INFORMATION SHEET

Originating Department: 85 Healt				85 Health			
Division/Program: (i.e. Dept. Division and Program)			8550 Human Services / 855040 Housing Program				
Contract or Grant Administrator:			Barbara Johnson-Vinna				
Contractor's / Agency Name: Opportunity Council							
Is this a New Contract? If not, is this an Amendment or Renewal to an Existing Contract? Yes 🖂 No 🗔							
Yes 🗌 🛛 No 🖂	,		3.08.100 (a)) Original Contract #: 202206019				
Does contract require		⊠ No 🗆	If No, include		11 10-117 IV		
Already approved?	Council Approved Date:		(Exclusions see: \	Nhatcom Cou	unty Codes	3.06.010, 3	.08.090 and 3.08.100)
Is this a grant agreen	nent?						
Yes 🗌 🛛 No 🖸		ncy contract nun	nber(s):			CFDA#:	
Is this contract grant	fundod2						
Yes X No		ounty grant cont	ract number(s):		202107	011	
					202107	011	
	sult of a RFP or Bid process?				Contrac		
Yes 🗌 🛛 No 🖸	If yes, RFP and Bid number	er(s): Sole	Source		Center:		122600
Is this agreement exc	uded from E-Verify? Nc	V Yes 🗆					
If YES, indicate exclus	ion(s) below:						
	vices agreement for certified/lic	ensed professio	onal.				
	for less than \$100,000.		Contract for Commercial off the shelf items (COTS).				
Contract work is	for less than 120 days.		Work related subcontract less than \$25,000.				
Interlocal Agreem	nent (between Governments).		Public Works - Local Agency/Federally Funded FHWA.				
Contract Amount:(sum	of original contract amount and	Council approv	al required for: al	l property lea	ases. cont	racts or bio	awards exceeding \$40,000,
any prior amendments	•	and profession	al service contrac	t amendme	nts that ha	ave an incr	ease greater than \$10,000 or
\$ 2,654,144			t amount, whiche				
This Amendment Amo	unt:						roved by the council.
\$ 157,120			by council in a ca				services, or other capital costs
Total Amended Amour	<u>nt:</u>		ard is for supplies		t appi opiie		
\$ 2,811,264			nt is included in E				
							are maintenance of electronic
			and/or technical s y software curren				e from the developer of
Summary of Scope: T	his contract funds programmatic a						e Housing and Essential
	and the distribution of rental and						
Term of Contract:	1 Year		Expiration Dat	e:	06/30/20	23	
	1. Prepared by:	JT				Date:	02/02/2023
Contract Routing:	2. Health Budget Approval	KR/JG				Date:	02/17/2023
	3. Attorney signoff:	RB				Date:	02/17/2023
	4. AS Finance reviewed:	A Martin				Date:	02/21/2023
	5. IT reviewed (if IT related):					Date:	
	6. Contractor signed:	DS				Date:	
	7. Contractor Program Manager:	DPDS					3/10/2023
	8. Executive Contract Review:	Sm				Date:	3/10/2023
	9. Council approved (if necessary)	: AB2023	-154			Date:	03/07/2023
	10. Executive signed:					Date:	3/10/2023
	11. Original to Council:					Date:	
						- Duto.	

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WHATCOM COUNTY Health Department



Erika Lautenbach, MPH, Director

Amy Harley, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer Greg Thompson, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM:	Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE:	Opportunity Council – Housing & Essential Needs Contract Amendment #2
DATE:	March 8, 2023

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

Background and Purpose

Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) is a program of the Washington State Department of Commerce's Consolidated Housing Grant (CHG) and provides funding to each county for rent and utility assistance, essential needs items and case management for recipients whose eligibility is determined by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). This is a sole source contract with the Opportunity Council as the administrator of the Whatcom Homeless Service Center.

Funding Amount and Source

The additional funding provided by this amendment is \$157,120. Funding for the entire contract period (07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023), in an amount not to exceed \$2,811,264, is provided by the Washington State Department of Commerce CHG. These funds will be included in the 2023 budget. Council approval is required as the additional funding provided by this amendment and the previous amendment exceed 10% of the amount authorized by Council on 06/21/2022.

Section	Revision Purpose
Exhibit A – Scope of Work	Adds funding, outcome and reporting requirements for new funding available through the 2022 State's Supplemental Operating Budget, specific to HEN-eligible, Foundational Community Support (FCS) enrollees, until 6/30/23. Eligible households no longer have a HEN referral from DSHS due to an increase in income, or other eligibility changes. This funding prioritizes serving those enrolled in FCS and enrolled in Supportive Employment, with rental assistance and case management. These services are also intended to provide support for households who no longer have a HEN Referral from DSHS due to increased income or other changes in eligibility. The FCS Program provides supportive housing and supported employment services for Apple Health-eligible beneficiaries with complex needs. Household income must be at or below 80% Area Median Income for those receiving assistance funded by HEN FCS.
Exhibit B – Compensation	Adds \$157,120 in Foundational Community Support (FCS) funds to create a bridge period of rent assistance for households enrolled in FCS, prioritizing households enrolled in Supportive Employment, who no longer have a HEN Referral from DSHS due to increased
	income or other changes in eligibility.

Differences from Previous Contracts

Please contact Ann Beck, Community Services Manager at 360-778-6055 (<u>ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us</u>) or Kathleen Roy, Financial & Administrative Manager at 360-778-6007 (<u>KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us</u>), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

509 Girard Street Bellingham, WA 98225-4005 360.778.6000 | FAX 360.778.6001 WhatcomCountyHealth WhatcomCoHealth



1500 North State Street Bellingham, WA 98225-4551 360.778.6100 | FAX 360.778.6101 www.whatcomcounty.us/health

Whatcom County Contract Number:

202206019 - 2

WHATCOM COUNTY CONTRACT AMENDMENT HOUSING & ESSENTIAL NEEDS

PARTIES: Whatcom County Whatcom County Health Department 509 Girard Street Bellingham, WA 98225

AND CONTRACTOR: Opportunity Council 1111 Cornwall Avenue Bellingham, WA 98225

CONTRACT PERIODS:

Original:	07/01/2022 – 06/30/2023
Amendment #1:	11/23/2022 - 06/30/2023
Amendment #2:	03/01/2023 - 06/30/2023

THE CONTRACT IDENTIFIED HEREIN, INCLUDING ANY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS THERETO, IS HEREBY AMENDED AS SET FORTH IN THE DESCRIPTION OF THE AMENDMENT BELOW BY MUTUAL CONSENT OF ALL PARTIES HERETO

DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:

- Amend Exhibit A Scope of Work, to add new HEN Foundational Community Services (FCS) Program funding, outcome, and reporting requirements for HEN-eligible, FCS enrollees. This new funding creates a bridge period of rent assistance for households enrolled in FCS, prioritizing households enrolled in FCS and Supportive Employment, who no longer have a HEN referral from DSHS due to increased income or other changes in eligibility. HEN-FCS funding also requires specific guidelines provided by WA State Department of Commerce are met, which include allowable expenses, eligibility requirements, prioritization of households, and HMIS and housing stability requirements.
- 2. Amend Exhibit B Compensation, to increase funding by \$157,120 to support a bridge period of rent assistance for households enrolled in FCS.
- 3. Funding for the total contract period (07/01/2022 06/30/2023) is not to exceed \$2,811,264.
- 4. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.
- 5. The effective start date of the amendment is 03/01/2023.

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ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT AND ANY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS THERETO REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT. ALL PARTIES IDENTIFIED AS AFFECTED BY THIS AMENDMENT HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE AND ACCEPT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AMENDMENT. 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 bind the party thereto.

DocuSigned by:		
Ann Beck		3/8/2023
APPROVAL AS TO PROGRAM:2B365BB0422344A		
Ann Beck, Com	munity Health & Human Services Manager	Date
DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL: Erika Laute		3/9/2023
Erika Lautenba	ch, Health Department Director	Date
APPROVAL AS TO FORM: Roya Buckingham		3/9/2023
Royce Buckingham, Se	enior Civil Deputy Prosecutor	Date
FOR THE CONTRACTOR: Docusigned by: Grig Winter 5555C420154704A0	Greg Winter, Executive Director	3/10/2023
Contractor Signature	Print Name and Title	Date
FOR WHATCOM COUNTY:		
Satpal Single Sidle		3/10/2023
Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive		Date

CONTRACTOR INFORMATION:

Opportunity Council

1111 Cornwall Avenue Bellingham, WA 98225 Greg Winter@oppco.org

EXHIBIT "A" – Amendment #2

(SCOPE OF WORK)

I. Background

The Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) is one of three programs created by Engrossed Senate House Bill 2082 which terminated the Disability Lifeline (DL) Program. HEN funds are part of Washington State Department of Commerce (Commerce) Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG) and are intended to provide rental assistance, case management, utility assistance and essential needs for Medical Care Services recipients whose eligibility is determined by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). The Opportunity Council's Whatcom Homeless Service Center (WHSC) serves as the coordinated entry for Whatcom County residents experiencing homelessness. The Community Services Division of the Opportunity Council oversees and administers housing case management and related programs. Community Services administers HEN rental and utility assistance, case management services for the HEN Program and the purchasing and distribution of Essential Needs products for HEN-eligible clients. Opportunity Council manages the Homeless Management Information Services (HMIS) for the County and is responsible for the HMIS requirements of the HEN Program. People eligible to receive HEN rental and utility assistance and Essential Needs items, will be served as long as funding is available and within the designated program requirements.

II. Project Description and Design

Housing and Essential Needs funds are limited to providing rental and utility assistance, case management and essential needs items for Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) recipients who are experiencing homelessness, or at substantial risk of becoming homeless, and whose eligibility is determined by DSHS. The HEN Program is not intended to provide long term support for households, nor will it be able to address all the financial and supportive service needs of households that affect housing stability, nor will it be able to serve all those who are eligible. Opportunity Council's Community Services Division serves as the administrative entity for HEN rental and utility assistance, case management services, and the purchasing and distribution of essential needs products and transportation assistance, for eligible individuals. Community Services will staff the HEN program with program operations and case management staff that are funded by the Contract, and are responsible for program implementation. Community Services will receive HEN referrals from the WHSC for homeless households. HEN referrals for households at-risk of homelessness will be referred by DSHS directly to the Opportunity Council's Community Resource Center, and subsequently to Community Services HEN Program.

Per State law, HEN eligibility now includes Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) recipients, and those who DSHS has determined to be incapacitated due to substance use. HEN providers are expected to prioritize those who are HEN-eligible, and experiencing unsheltered homelessness or currently fleeing violence, and have the greatest need (CHG Guidelines, 9.4.2). Guidance from Commerce on prioritization of HEN-eligible clients indicates the following factors must be used to determine greatest need to include, but not be limited to: unsheltered homelessness and length of time homeless. Additional guidance on prioritization is available in the Washington State Coordinated Entry Guidelines (October 2021) Section 6.2 and within the Consolidated Homeless Grant guidelines.

III. Statement of Work

A. HEN Rental & Utility Assistance, Case Management and Foundational Community Support (FCS) Services

The Contractor will be responsible for programmatic and administrative services associated with the operation of the HEN Program. Programmatic and administrative services include all activities necessary to operate Community Services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Administrative Requirements and Guidelines for the CHG as more fully described in Section IV: Special Conditions, below.

The Contractor will:

- 1. Commit to efforts to reducing and ending homelessness in Whatcom County by:
 - a. Prioritizing unsheltered homeless households and households currently fleeing violence (as per CHG Guidelines.
 - b. Assessing each household's housing needs and facilitating housing stability with the goal of obtaining or maintaining permanent housing (as per CHG Guidelines).
 - c. Employing a progressive engagement service model.
- 2. Provide direct services to individuals as follows:

- a. For non-FCS clients, eligibility is noted in the DSHS Benefits Verification System (BVS).
- b. For FCS clients, eligible households include HEN households who no longer have a HEN Referral from DSHS. This includes:
 - i. Households who are currently receiving HEN rent assistance;
 - ii. Homeless and at risk of homelessness households who:
 - a. Received a HEN Referral within the last six months, but were not able to identify permanent housing; OR
 - b. Received rent assistance in the past, but exited the program within the last six months; AND
 - iii. Households enrolled in FCS. FCS households enrolled in the Supportive Employment should be prioritized.
 - iv. Household income is at or below 80% Area Median Income.
- 3. Document client eligibility in client files.
- 4. Authorize and issue rental and utility assistance subsidies in a timely manner.
- 5. Track and report rental and utility assistance subsidies.
- 6. Support households in obtaining or maintaining permanent housing. This may include payment of eviction, attorney, or collections fees for previous rental damages, or move in kits. Funding for these expenses must be paid directly to a third party on behalf of the household and noted in a household's housing stability plan. For FCS eligible clients, the Contractor must work with households on a housing stability plan to secure affordable permanent housing with the knowledge that FCS funding expires on 06/30/2023.
- 7. Coordinate with existing housing providers and landlords to identify and secure permanent housing placements for clients.
- 8. Cultivate and maintain relationships with local landlords who agree to participate in the program.
- 9. Make client referrals for Essential Needs Services, housing and other community resources.
- 10. Coordinate with the Community Service Office of DSHS regarding client service delivery.
- 11. Comply with HMIS requirements including data entry and reporting responsibilities.
- 12. Commit to reporting complete quality data that is timely, truthful and accurate (as per CHG/HEN Guidelines, HEN FCS Guidelines and HMIS User Agreement).
- 13. Ensure compliance with State confidentiality laws and regulations.
- 14. Complete all other activities identified by Whatcom County and Commerce as necessary to implement and manage the rental and utility assistance portion of the HEN Program.
- 15. Have written and available Applicant Denial and Grievance and Termination and Grievance policies and/or procedures for the HEN FCS Program.

B. Essential Needs and Move-in Supplies Assistance

The Opportunity Council, will be responsible for administration and distribution of essential needs products, to include personal health and hygiene items, cleaning supplies, move-in supplies, or bus passes, and will accordingly:

- 1. Purchase and distribute essential needs products and move-in supplies to clients eligible for the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program.
- 2. Document client eligibility using DSHS Benefits Verification system.

- 3. Have written and available Applicant Denial and Grievance and Termination and Grievance policies and/or procedures.
- 4. Maintain an inventory tracking and tracking of client usage system.
- 5. Submit an annual HEN Essential Needs Report at the end of each state fiscal year to Whatcom County for submission to Commerce.

C. Flexible Funding

The Opportunity Council will be responsible for administration and provision of Flexible Funding according to Whatcom County and the CHG Guidelines as follows:

Flexible Funding is the provision of goods or payments of expenses not included in other allowable expense categories, which directly help a household to obtain or maintain permanent housing, or meet essential household needs. Flexible Funding purchases require prior approval by the Contract Manager. Documentation of client eligibility and reason for the item purchased are required. Flexible Funding payments are required to be paid to a third party and require documentation for the purpose in the housing stability plan for the client. Note that for the purposes of this contract, Flexible Funding will exclude essential needs items, which are covered under the essential needs assistance budget.

IV. Special Conditions

The Contractor will comply with program requirements, policies and procedures contained in the "Department of Commerce Guidelines for Consolidated Homeless Grant" hereafter referred to as CHG Guidelines located at: <u>http://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/homelessness/consolidated-homeless-grant/</u>. Changes to the CHG Guidelines may be made without contract amendment. The CHG Guidelines will be updated periodically in compliance with changing State requirements. Whenever a revised edition of the CHG Guidelines is available, the County will provide an email notification. The Contractor must inform the County if grant funds are spent on ineligible households or expenses.

V. Program Outcomes

During this contract period, the Contractor is expected to meet the following outcomes:

- A. The Contractor will provide assistance to all HEN eligible households that seek assistance during the contract term provided that HEN rent and utility assistance funds are available. Based on the previous 12-month period, the program is expected to serve at least 182 households between 7/1/2022 6/30/2023.
- B. The Contractor will provide assistance to at least 250 HEN-eligible households through the purchase and distribution of essential needs items and cleaning and move-in supplies as the budget for this purpose so allows.
- C. The Contractor will provide assistance for at least 10 households eligible for the HEN Foundational Community Support program with rent assistance and case management between 3/1/23-6/30/23.
- D. Out of a total of at least 10 HEN households served with HEN FCS funding, at least 8 households will attain housing stability by the end of this funding 6/30/23.

VI. <u>Reporting Requirements</u>

System-wide performance measures and benchmarks specific to intervention type (HMIS project type), are outlined in the table found at the link below. CHG Grantees must meet or demonstrate progress towards established performance measure targets by meeting the indicated benchmarks, upon lifting of the temporary suspension of this requirement by Commerce due to COVID-19. Temporary Changes and Suspensions to CHG due to COVID-19 may apply, as indicated at https://www.commerce.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/hau-ce-performance-chg-temporary-changes-v6.pdf.

Updates to the CHG System-Wide Mandatory Performance Measures table will be provided periodically by Commerce. Updates will be posted on the Whatcom County Health Department website which can be accessed at: <u>http://whatcomcounty.us/910/Housing-Program</u>. Additionally, the Opportunity Council will receive written notification from the County upon notification of updates from Commerce. The Contractor will submit the following reports on a monthly basis to the County:

- A. Number of HEN eligible households assisted during the current month and how many have been assisted year to date.
- B. Average amount of subsidy per HEN household.
- C. Number of HEN eligible households declined.
- D. Projects falling under the following intervention types and funded by the Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG), which includes HEN, will be expected to meet or demonstrate progress towards system-wide performance measures as set by the Washington State Department of Commerce.
- E. Number of HEN FCS eligible households assisted with case management and rental assistance during the current month, and how many have been assisted year to date, with HEN FCS Prevention and HEN FCS Rapid Rehousing from 3/1/23-6/30/23.
- F. Number of HEN FCS eligible households who maintained or achieved housing stability by 6/30/23.

Reporting for purchase and distribution of essential needs requires:

A. The Contractor will submit an Essential Needs Report to the County, at which time it is due as required by Consolidated Homeless Grant guidelines, that identifies the number of people that received Essential Needs products and services each month. The report must answer this question: How many people did you serve with Essential Needs this month? Duplication of people is expected and will be acceptable.

Whatcom County Health Department may update reporting templates or formats during the contract period, and will provide advance notice of new reporting requirements prior to the start of the reporting quarter.

EXHIBIT "B" - Amendment #2

(COMPENSATION)

I. Budget and Funding

The source of funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$2,811,264, is from the Washington State Department of Commerce, Consolidated Homeless Grant. Commerce and the State of Washington are not liable for claims or damages arising from Subcontractor's performance of the contract. The budget for this contract is as follows:

	HEN PROGRAM BUDGE	Г	
Cost Description*	Documents Required with Each Invoice		Budget
Personnel (HMIS, Case Managers, Coordinated Entry, Support)	Expanded General Ledger (GL) report for the period billed		
50% Fringe Benefit Rate	Expanded GL report based on federally a	approved fringe rate	\$227,043
Direct Program Supplies – Office Space, Telephone, Insurance	Expanded GL report for the period billed		
Mileage	Mileage log to include: name of staff member, date of travel, starting point and destination of travel, number of miles traveled. Mileage will be reimbursed at the GSA rate (per <u>www.gsa.gov</u>).		
Travel/Training	Include name of traveler, date, start & end point, and purpose. Receipts required for transportation costs, registration fees, etc. Lodging and meal costs follow federal guidelines (www.gsa.gov). Receipts for meals are not required.		
	Rent Payments and Other Allowabl	e Expenses	
deposits; Utilities, Arrears and Late Fees; Pro-rated Rent; Hotel/Motel expense Homes for HEN enrolled; Rental Arro Permanent Housing Support Expense for eviction costs/damages to previo Guidelines Section 5.1.		Expanded GL with Client ID, payee, amount	\$1,514,673
Landlord Incentives (excludes volunteer incentives), Security Deposits and Landlord Admin. Required Fees		\$65,000	
•		Expanded GL report for the period billed	\$63,500
goods or payments of expenses not categories, which directly help a hou housing or meet essential household party and noted in the household's h	CHG Guidelines Section 5.3.3 – Includes included in other allowable expense schold to obtain or maintain permanent d needs. Must be paid directly to a 3 rd iousing stability plan. Excludes essential ential needs assistance budget below.	Expanded GL with Client ID, payee, amount and documentation of County Contract Administrator's approval.	\$15,000
		SUBTOTAL	\$2,379,109
Indirect Costs – 7%**			\$166,537
		TOTAL	\$2,545,646

	ESSENTIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE BUDGET	
Cost Description	Documents Required Each Invoice	Budget
Personnel	Expanded GL report for the period billed	\$30,000
Hygiene Product, Cleaning and		
Move-in Supplies, and	GL Detail and Receipts	\$71,000
Transportation Assistance		
Insurance/Supplies/Mortgage/Rent		\$400
	SUBTOTAL	\$101,400
Indirect Costs – 7% **		\$7,098
	Essential Needs TOTAL	\$108,498
FOUNDATIO	NAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT(FCS) BUDGET (03/01/2023 – 06/30/2023)	
Cost Description	Documents Required Each Invoice	Budget
Personnel	Expanded GL report for the period billed	\$20,168
Rental Assistance (includes	Expanded CL with Client ID, payee, amount	
Prevention)	Expanded GL with Client ID, payee, amount	\$126,673
	SUBTOTAL	\$146,841
Indirect Costs – 7% **		\$10,279
	FCS TOTAL	\$157,120
	TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT	\$2,811,264

*The Contractor may transfer funds among budget line items in an amount up to 10% of the total budget. Changes to a line item budget that exceed 10% must be approved in writing by the County.

**In no instance shall the indirect cost exceed 7% or fringe benefit rate exceed the current federally approved rate. All allocated direct costs must be based on approved cost allocation plan.

II. Invoicing

- 1. The Contractor shall submit itemized invoices up to two times per month in a format approved by the County. Invoices should be received no later than the 15th of each month for the previous month expenditures. Invoices submitted for payment must include the documentation specified in the tables above.
- 2. Invoices and all invoice-related communication should be sent to <u>HL-BusinessOffice@co.whatcom.wa.us</u>.
- 3. End of year rent and utility assistance payments will be invoiced and reimbursed based on the date of the rent or utility assistance check issuance.
- 4. 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. The County may withhold payment of an invoice if the Contractor submits it more than 30 days after the expiration of this Contract.
- 5. 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.

6. <u>Duplication of Billed Costs or Payments for Services</u>: The Contractor shall not bill the Health Department for services performed or provided under this contract, and the Health Department 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.