



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Aristo Healthcare Services – COVID Temporary Housing Facility Contract
DATE: October 29, 2021

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Aristo Healthcare Services for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is necessary for Whatcom County to implement actions that will mitigate the spread of the disease and provide basic services in support of public health for the community at large. In order to respond to people in need of isolation and quarantine, who have no other options to accomplish such, Whatcom County opened a COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Facility (Facility). Since March of 2020, Lighthouse Mission and SeaMar Community Health Centers have provided on-site support to ensure operational, social distance, and public health related concerns are addressed at the Facility, however, both agencies will end their services at the Facility on 9/30/2021. Road2Home will assume administrative oversight of daily operations at the Facility but need time for transition and staffing planning.

Aristo Healthcare Services (Aristo) provides temporary, per-diem, temp-to-hire and contract staffing services. This contract provides funding for Aristo to immediately fill the staffing gap at the Facility during the transition from Lighthouse Mission and SeaMar Community Health Services to Road2Home, as the contracted Facility operator.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Total funding is estimated at \$200,000. Funding for this contract will vary depending on the number of employees assigned to the Facility, the position's hourly rate (including overtime, holiday, and weekend rates), various personnel accommodations (travel, meals, quarantine pay, etc.). Funds for this contract are made available by a grant awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), passed through the Washington State Military Department (Funding Source Agreement #FEMA-4481-DR-WA) (CFDA 97.036, Public Assistance). These funds are included in the 2021 budget. Council approval is required as estimated funding is expected to exceed \$40,000.

Please contact Sue Sullivan, Environmental Health Manager at 360-778-6026 (SSullivan@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

