



Health and Community Services

Cynthia Foley

Council Initiated:

☐ Yes

☒ No

ECAF: 2025-2761
Motion: 25-390

Type:

- ☒ Contract
☐ Board Appt.
☐ Code Amendment
☐ Budget Action
☐ Other

Requested Handling:

- ☒ Normal
☐ Expedite
☐ Urgent

Fund Source:

- ☐ General Fund
☒ Other
☐ N/A

Executive Rec:

- ☒ Approve
☐ Do Not Approve
☐ N/A

Approved as to

Form:

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☒ N/A

Subject: Washington Cares Fund Implementation Agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Scope: The Human Services Department is seeking to enter into an agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services for Washington Cares Fund (WCF) Implementation. Snohomish County is the Area Aging Agency (AAA) and will implement the long-term care insurance program locally.

In accordance with the contract Statement of Work, AAAs implement an outreach plan with the goal of reaching key audiences with information about WA Cares, including how contributions work, optional exemptions, using benefits, covered services, and any other priority topics identified by the WA Cares communications and outreach team.

AAAs support the expansion and oversight of WCF provider network policy and procedure development, capacity assessment, and recruitment strategies.

AAAs will also prepare to accept benefit applications, complete in-home eligibility assessments and suggested service navigation, and provide navigation for individuals needing enhanced support. Direct support for beneficiaries is anticipated to begin on May 15, 2026, statewide. Services will begin at pilot sites on January 6, 2026.

The grant total exceeds the amount in the 2025 Human Services Grant Work Plan by more than \$100,000 and Council approval is required pursuant to SCC 4.26.025¹.

Duration: July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026

Fiscal Impact: ☐ Current Year ☒ Multi-Year ☐ N/A

Expenditures	Current Year	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
Fund 124	\$677,635	\$677,635				\$1,355,270
Totals	\$677,635	\$677,635	0	0	0	\$1,355,270

Revenue	Current Year	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
Fund 124	\$677,635	\$677,635				\$1,355,270
Totals	\$677,635	\$677,635	0	0	0	\$1,355,270

¹ [ch. 4.26 Budget Procedures | Snohomish County Code](#)

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Authority Granted: Motion 25-390 authorizes the County Executive to execute WCF Implementation AAA Agreement with Washington State Department of Social and Health Services for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$1,355,270 and any subsequent amendments thereto.

Background: The Wa Cares long-term care insurance program was created in 2019 with the passage of the Long-Term Services and Support Trust Act². Program benefits are anticipated to become available to eligible individuals in 2026. The program is financed by 0.58 percent payroll tax and covers up to \$36,500 (plus 2.5% annual inflation) for the care needs of eligible individuals.

On November 25, 2024, Council passed Motion 24-378³ approving the 2025 Human Services Grant Work Plan. The work plan includes \$950,000 in grant funding for Washington Cares Fund outreach.

On December 18, 2024, Council passed Motion 24-464⁴ approving a grant for Washington Cares provider network development in the amount of \$315,000.

Requested Action: Move to the GLS agenda for Council consideration.

² [Chapter 50b.04 RCW: LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS TRUST PROGRAM](#)

³ [2024-2025 - Motion 24-378](#)

⁴ [2024-2804 - Motion 24-464](#)