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July 1, 2021

The Honorable Claudia Balducci Chair, King County Council Room 1200 C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

This letter transmits the 2020 Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Annual Report, as required by Ordinance 18768.

This year, the Adult Services Division of the Department of Community and Human Services has transitioned to digital reporting in an effort to increase transparency and accessibility. The full digital 2020 VSHSL Annual Report, available online <a href="here">here</a>, includes interactive performance and financial digital dashboards and covers the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, in accordance with legislative reporting requirements. The comprehensive report includes in-depth financial and performance data on the levy's 2020 operations, program summaries, describing services supported with levy funds, and personal narratives that illustrate the impact the levy has on the lives of King County residents. The attached document is the 2020 Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Annual Report Summary. These companion pieces each satisfy all legislative reporting requirements, whether considered as a pair or separately.

In 2020, the VSHSL continued to build from its solid foundation. VSHSL staff procured new investments and increased the focus on supporting funded partners to realize their breadth of programming under significantly altered circumstances during the COVID-19 pandemic. The VSHSL Annual Report describes each levy-funded strategy under the five result areas of housing stability, financial stability, healthy living, social engagement, and service system access and improvement. It reflects King County's commitment to effective implementation and prudent fiscal stewardship of public funds.

Additionally, the digital annual report highlights how VSHSL staff and community partners successfully adjusted programming and delivery methods to meet emerging community needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the pandemic created unforeseen

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challenges, the levy quickly adapted, and VSHSL's partner organizations remained resilient in serving King County's communities. I am proud to share the results with you.

The performance information shared in this year's report provides useful information to the community and policymakers highlighting what is working and identifying opportunities to improve VSHSL services. In 2020, most VSHSL-funded providers transitioned to submitting performance measurement data through King County's new Client Outcomes Reporting Engine (CORE). These advancements in evaluation and measurement will provide a more detailed look at who VSHSL is serving and how well it is serving them. This will help programs ensure they are nimble and responsive to community needs.

I thank the volunteer members of the Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Advisory Board for their generous community service and shared commitment to local veterans, servicemembers, and their families; seniors and their caregivers; and resilient communities within King County.

This report required an estimated 1,359 staff hours to produce, costing approximately \$66,577, plus \$9,100 in King County Information Technology development costs. The transition to digital reporting eliminated approximately \$2,319 in printing expenses.

The work of the VSHSL furthers the King County Strategic Plan goal to improve the health and well-being of people in our community through housing and other human services supports, as well as the objective to ensure a network of integrated and effective health and human services is available to people in need. The VSHSL also supports the goals of the King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan through supporting organizations that recognize and address the disparities and disproportionality that exist in our communities.

I look forward to our continued partnership as the VSHSL continues to provide critical services to King County residents. Together, we can ensure that King County is truly a community where every person has the opportunity to thrive.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services, at (206) 477-4384.

Sincerely.

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

**Enclosures** 

cc: King County Councilmembers

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ATTN: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Karan Gill, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive
Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget