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July 1, 2022

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 2021 Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Annual Report, as required by Ordinance 18768. As provided last year, the attached document is the 2021 Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Annual Report Summary.

This year, the Department of Community and Human Services continued to utilize digital reporting to increase transparency and accessibility. The full digital 2021 VSHSL Annual Report is available online <a href="here">here</a>. It includes interactive performance and financial digital dashboards, program summaries describing services supported with levy funds, and personal narratives that illustrate the impact the levy has had on the lives of King County residents. The summary and the digital report each satisfy the reporting requirements, whether considered as a pair or separately.

As people continued to struggle with the economic and social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, including housing instability and health challenges, the VSHSL provided programming tailored to support those facing challenges resulting from the pandemic. In 2021, VSHSL funds helped establish new affordable housing that low-income residents can call home; offered housing lifelines designed to prevent eviction; fortified senior centers to foster healthy, active, and fulfilling senior living; developed a first-in-the-nation veteran housing support program; funded important nonprofit wage research that will inform King County's actions to strengthen the nonprofit sector; and supported vaccination efforts. The VSHSL Annual Report describes levy-funded strategies and illustrates King County's commitment to effective implementation and prudent fiscal stewardship of public funds.

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 that 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 by supporting organizations that

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recognize and address disparities and disproportionality that exist in King County 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.

This report required an estimated 750 staff hours to produce, costing approximately \$45,000, plus \$11,180 in King County Information Technology development costs.

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

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Mina Hashemi, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive

Leo Flor, Director, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)