Buncombe County NC - Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday 7/23/2025
Time: 3:30 to 4:30 pm
Location: Land of Sky Regional Council
339 New Leicester Hwy., Suite 140
Asheville, NC 28806 and Zoom

Invitees		
Dan Beerman (V)	Suzanne Booth	Taylor Foisie
~~Melissa Harmon~~	~~Eileen McMinn~~	Deborah Oldt (V)
Susan Schiemer	Greg Zornes	
Alison Banzhoff (V)	Billie Breeden	Zack Schmitt

(V) = Virtual
Not in attendance: Melissa Harmon and Eileen McMinn

I. Welcome
   a. Approve or Revise Agenda
      i. There were no additions or revisions to the Agenda.
      ii. Motion made by Suzanne to approve the Agenda, seconded by Greg. Motion carried.
   b. Approve or Revise Meeting Minutes
      i. There were no revisions to the Meeting Minutes.
      ii. Motion made by Deborah to approve the Meeting Minutes, seconded by Suzanne. Motion carried.

II. Home and Community Care Block Grant Final Allocation Less than Estimated; $1,682,239 vs $1,700,000 - The Notice of Grant Award (NGA) for FY26 HCCBG Funding was received on July 3, 2025. Buncombe County received $1,682,239; this amount was less than $1,700,000 that the committee based their funding recommendations.
   a. Status of Mountain Mobility requirement for $500,000
   b. Recommendations were reduced proportionally - Susan reduced all funding recommendations proportionally for all providers; the funding was down $17,761.
   c. All funding recommendations for the Buncombe County Funding Plan (HCCBG and BCSAF funding) were resubmitted and approved by the Board of County Commissioners at the July 15 meeting.

d. Some BCSAF contracts have gone out already. The rest of the BCSAF contracts will go out by the end of July.
e. Susan went to the July 15th Board of County Commissioners Meeting and thanked the Commissioners for the BCSAF funding and mentioned all of the recipients of the funding.

III. Review of Fiscal Year End Funding Expenditure Reports
   a. Units of Service - Reviewed
      i. All providers were made whole (100%), and all of the funding was allocated.
      ii. Reallocated funding included the $50,000 given to Buncombe County recently and funding relinquished by United Community Development and Council on Aging (Congregate Nutrition Program).
      iii. Additional funding was given to Jewish Family Services, Meals on Wheels, MountainCare and a portion to Pisgah Legal Services.
   b. Buncombe County Supplemental Aging Funds (BCSAF) - Reviewed
      i. UNETE and IHA did not spend all of their funding. About $89,000 went back to the County.
      ii. Monitoring Reports UNETE & Eblen Charities - Reviewed

IV. Begin Discussion of Funding Priorities and Application Scoring Tool
   a. Committee members began a discussion about articulating their priorities for making funding recommendations as well as looking at the application scoring tool.
   b. Consider vital services that keep people living in their homes as well as supportive services like transportation, legal services, etc. Also, it would be helpful to see who is using the services the most by zip code.
   c. Need to consider why some providers are funded over others. Perhaps the committee should focus on updating the scoring tool.
   d. ARMS database can provide some demographic data about who is accessing services: how many people are accessing services, gender, how many people live alone, how people identify by race, how many people live above or below the poverty level, and whether they are at risk, high risk, etc. ARMS does not provide information about zip codes where people who are accessing services live
   e. Zack is getting his license to make Geographic Information Systems (GIS) maps so he can show concentrations of where older adults live. GIS uses census information so it will only be as current as the last census. Zack will report back.
   f. Dan suggested that the committee meet with providers in the fall and learn more about who they are serving, their greatest needs, etc. The committee would come up with 2 or 3 questions to ask of each provider.
   g. To view the discussion, click on https://engage.buncombecounty.org/x1728.

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V. Determine Action Items and Next Steps
   a. Homework: Committee members will look at the scoring tool and consider how the scoring language can be changed.