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

Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday 1/28/2026
Time: 3:30 to 5:00 pm
Location: Land of Sky Regional Council
339 New Leicester Hwy., Suite 140
Asheville, NC 28806 and ZOOM

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

Not in attendance: Greg Zornes and Deborah Oldt

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

II. Review of Expenditure Reports
   a. Units of Service - Reviewed
   b. Buncombe County Supplemental Aging Funds (BCSAF) - Reviewed
      i. Updates from Mountain Aging Partners from Haylee Smith, Funding Manager in an email to Billie and Zack:
      We are currently underspent in some HCCBG and BCSAF categories due to lower utilization early in the fiscal year and recent participant discharges, not a lack of demand.
      For BCSAF transportation, we serve 9 participants and are budgeted at $2,750 per month. As participation stabilized and more trips required transportation outside of Mountain Mobility, monthly costs increased to approximately $4,000 per month. At this rate, we expect the BCSAF

transportation funds to be fully expended by year end, with the possibility of adding additional participants.
For HCCBG transportation, we currently serve 8 participants. Recent discharges temporarily reduced spending, and we are actively enrolling additional eligible participants to increase utilization, with the hopes that Mountain Mobility can accommodate the route.
The same pattern applies to HCCBG Day Care and Day Health funding, where underspending reflects participant transitions rather than reduced service need. Referrals continue, and we are reallocating available funding as quickly as possible.

III. Presentation by William High, Lead Transportation Planner, who oversees the operations and programs related to transportation including Mountain Mobility.
   a. A copy of the presentation is attached.
   b. To view the meeting and discussion, please click on this link: https://engage.buncombecounty.org/x1728
   c. Susan made a motion to accept the Mountain Mobility presentation in lieu of the FY27 application; seconded by Suzanne. All in favor. Motion carried.
   d. Susan made a motion to include Mountain Mobility with the other applicants in the allocation process; seconded by Suzanne. 5 in favor, 1 opposed. Motion carried.

IV. Determine Action Items and Next Steps
   a. Billie will send out the FY26 Mid-Year Aging Services Summary to the Committee before the next meeting.

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

Billie,

Thank you for confirming that Buncombe County Community Development will not need to fill out an application for Mountain Mobility transportation services. I do understand the question surrounding the recurring allocation $500,000. Please see my responses below to the HCCBG Advisory Committee questions:

1. if you can locate written documentation of the agreement that MM will always get $500K.

There is no written documentation/agreement establishing a recurring commitment of $500,000. That decision was made when Jen Teague was still at Buncombe County and leading the allocation efforts. My recollection from that time is that the County, during the budgeting process, was considering reducing its local commitment to HCCBG from $500,000 to the minimum required match (a significant reduction). During the budget process, I explained that the Transportation Fund relied on a sizable allocation of HCCBG funding and that reducing the local commitment to HCCBG would essentially reduce the grant funds to the Transportation and require the County to: (1) increase local funding to the Transportation fund to offset reduced HCCBG funds, and/or (2) reduce Mountain Mobility HCCBG transportation services given less funding support. Again, as I recall, Jen Teague felt that advocating to preserve the full local commitment while also preserving a regular allocation to Mountain Mobility meant that we (Mountain Mobility) would not be entering into direct competition for an ultimately reduced total pot of funds.

2. if there is documentation stating that the amount of BCSAF funding would be what MM would be provided in HCCBG funds.

There is no written documentation/agreement stating that BCSAF funding would be provided or in what amounts.

Please let me know if I can provide any further information.

Thanks,
Matt

Matthew Cable
Planning Department
Community Development Division Manager
(828) 250-4829
35 Woodfin St, Asheville, NC 28801
Respect. Integrity. Collaboration. Honesty. Equity.
Facebook • ***Twitter*** • ***Instagram*** • ***YouTube*** • ***LinkedIn***