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

Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday 2/25/2026
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	Suzanne Booth	Taylor Foisie
~~Melissa Harmon~~	~~Eileen McMinn~~	Deborah Oldt
Susan Schiemer	Greg Zornes	
Alison Banzhoff	Billie Breeden	Zack Schmitt

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

II. Review of Expenditure Reports
   a. Units of Service - Reviewed
      i. The units of service for BC In-Home Aide program did not reflect current units of service provided as County management instructions (see below) did not occur until after the ARMS deadline. True total units provided for Level 1 were 1311 and for Level 2 were 3076. The February 2026 Units of Service Report will show accurate numbers.
      ii. From Mountain Aging Partners - The Buncombe Adult Day center did not operate at full capacity due to the two consecutive weeks of inclement weather, which impacted service totals.
   b. Buncombe County Supplemental Aging Funds (BCSAF) - Reviewed
      i. Per recent instructions from County management, BC In-Home Aide program must use HCCBG funding before BCSAF. This is why the In-

Home Aide program only showed 15% of its BCSAF allocation spent unlike what was shown in the previous month. Funding was shifted to HCCBG funding.

ii. County management also decided that leftover funding could be shifted from underspent BCSAF providers to overspent BCSAF providers who would use the funding. The reallocations have to happen by 4/22/26 to give BC HHS Finance time to amend the contracts. Working Wheels was recommended as receiving reallocated funding as they requested additional funding two months ago.

iii. No word yet on how much BCSAF we will receive for FY27 as the County was working on its budgets.

iv. From Mountain Aging Partners (MAP) - For Buncombe HCCBG Transportation, there was an issue with units not saving properly after entry in ARMS. The corrected total transportation units YTD were 591, and this will be reflected when reports are run next month. MAP will continue to enroll eligible participants to increase utilization, and these changes will be shown in the next report.

v. UNETE started their Mi Vida Elder Club in February as planned. They have had two sessions (2/17/26 and 2/24/26) so far. The first session had 4 participants and the second session had 12 participants. Transportation is an issue as the meetings are held at Riverside Baptist Church instead of at the former church in the Emma community (which sold last year.) UNETE has a van and considered transporting participants in the van, but they don't have the funding to train drivers.

vi. Per BC HHS Finance and County Management, committee members should look at prior year spending of BCSAF funded providers when making FY27 funding recommendations. Committee members should provide justification if they continue to fund an underspent BCSAF funded provider.

vii. Bryanna Cassada, BC HHS Finance, was working on a spreadsheet showing year to year spending for BCSAF funded providers. Billie will send this spreadsheet to Susan before the March meeting.

III. Review half year reports - Reviewed

a. Blue Ridge Pride has been undergoing leadership changes.
b. Both Blue Ridge Pride Gen Plus and Better Together Transportation help reduce social isolation.
c. The committee wanted to know from Better Together Transportation - what is causing the physical capacity limit? Billie will ask Eugenio Perez, ED.
d. There is a state prioritization tool which informs BC who should receive In-Home Aide. The highest priority are for those who are receiving Adult Protective

Services or caregiver neglect. A staff position to support the In-Home Aide program is still in the budget. Complicating capacity restraints is that the Special Assistance In-Home program now requires that there should not be a waitlist so staff have been working on those cases. However, there is movement on the In-Home Aide waitlist, people are being taken off the In-Home Aide waitlist, about two per month.

e. The committee would like Mountain Mobility to do customer surveys for impact rather than preventable accidents.
f. Council on Aging has a state waiver for meal pickups until the Lakeview Center can be opened back up.
g. Jewish Family Services is very attentive in sharing their surveys. Jewish Family Services moved to Gerber Village in a building between the shopping center and Givens Gerber Park. They are building partnerships with Givens Communities and Deerfield Episcopal Retirement Community.
h. The committee would like to see the survey data from the Senior Companion Program for the next meeting. Billie will contact Dee Heinmuller.
i. Meals on Wheels is building partnerships through the Elder Nutrition Coalition, a collaboration of organizations providing food to older adults. Other organizations that are part of this coalition include Bounty and Soul, MANNA, Jewish Family Services, Mountain Aging Partners, Community Health Worker program, Food Connections, Council on Aging, Catholic Charities, Mountain Mobility, and Salvation Army.
j. There is a strong demand for legal services.
k. For more detail, click on this link: https://engage.buncombecounty.org/x1728

IV. Determine Action Items and Next Steps

a. HCCBG funding decisions will be based on $1.6 or $1.65 million dollars.
b. The March 25, 2026 meeting will be an hour and a half due to discussion of funding recommendations.