

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 3/22/2023

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: Hybrid (In person & ZOOM)

Invitees		
Dan Beerman (V)	Suzanne Booth (V)	Rebecca Hartz (IP)
Eileen McMinn (V)	Deborah Oldt (V)	Susan Schiemer (IP)
Greg Zornes (IP)	Meg White (V)	Billie Breeden
Zack Schmitt (IP)	Jennifer Teague (V)	LeeAnne Tucker (IP)

V=virtual

IP=In Person

Not in attendance: Billie Breeden

- I. Welcome
 - a. Welcome new member
 - i. Susan Schiemer introduced Deborah Oldt
 - ii. Deborah Oldt is a social worker and has worked with older adults in Buncombe County for the last 5 years, most recently as a Resource Navigator at Council on Aging of Buncombe County. Deborah has a certification in home modification from the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology located in Los Angeles. Deborah has recently retired.
 - b. Approve or Revise Agenda
 - i. The agenda was revised to include report from Jen Teague about the In-Home Aide (IHA) Program for FY24 after approval of the Meeting Minutes.
 - c. Approve or Revise Meeting Minutes – February
 - i. Motion made by Suzanne Booth to approve the Meeting Minutes, seconded by Greg Zornes. Motion carried.
- II. In-Home Aide Program - FY24
 - a. Jen Teague reported on the FY23 IHA Program as described below:
 - i. Council on Aging of Buncombe County will not be applying for the FY24 BCSAF funding. The County will manage the IHA Program and is already managing an IHA Program through the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funding. For the SSBG, the County does the case management and subcontracts the hands-on work (re: aides); the County would do the same with FY24 funding. Even though the County will be managing

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the program for FY24, the County encourages any licensed home care agencies to apply for FY25. The County asked if the Committee would allow match from BCSAF funding to help cover staffing costs.

- ii. The workload for the IHA Program at the County will be shared between Jen Teague, Ryan Garcia, and Billie Breedon. Jen will manage the contract. Ryan is the Adult and Aging Services Social Work Supervisor and will supervise the case manager doing the assessments and quarterly/annual reports. Billie will do the ARMS reporting and ensure the hours that are getting billed will be submitted into ARMS on time. Finance will reconcile ARMS data with billing.
- iii. The County will send out an RFP which is open to all licensed home care agencies. There continues to be a staffing shortage. County expects aides to be paid like the SSBG funding - \$17.00 per hour for non-certified aides and \$18.00 for certified aides. Mileage and parking will be reimbursed too. The County will make the wage known to the home care agencies through the RFP.
- iv. Zack Schmitt will monitor the County IHA Program as before.
- v. Motion by Rebecca Hartz to vote to recommend that the IHA program be moved to the County and the match would be taken from BCSAF funding. Seconded by Suzanne Booth. Motion carried.
- vi. A vote was taken to approve the recommendation. Vote was unanimous - 7 yes votes
- vii. Jen Teague will provide an update on the RFP next month.

III. Grant Application Discussion

- a. FY24 Funding Spreadsheet was reviewed. Jen Teague summed all of the funding recommendations and divided by 8 to get the average funding for each applicant.
- b. Discussion ensued about the pros/cons and why some applicants weren't recommended for funding. See video for more detail: [Home and Community Care Block Grant Advisory Committee Meetings \(HCCBG\) - PublicInput.com \(buncombecounty.org\)](https://www.buncombecounty.org)
- c. All questions for applicants should be submitted to Jen Teague. Jen will email the applicants with the questions and provide the answers before the next meeting on April 26.
- d. Committee members should adjust their funding decisions before the April 26 meeting. Jen will send individual spreadsheets to each Committee member to help with the process. The final decisions will be made at the April 26 meeting.
- e. Jen Teague explained the transportation options requested by MountainCare. Mountain Mobility is hoping to get MountainCare back up to 50% ridership (pre COVID) by the end of this year. MountainCare would like to expand transportation options to get more people into the program. ARMS State System does not allow for two different unit rates for one service.

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MountainCare would have to create an average unit rate per ARMS. If MountainCare contracted with Mountain Mobility, it would cost about \$20 per ride and if MountainCare contracted with an outside provider, it would cost up to \$100 per ride. If MountainCare did one application, it would come to about \$50-75 per ride. If MountainCare contracted with Mountain Mobility in the one application, they would have to put more money in their budget when Mountain Mobility would cost half of that amount. If MountainCare contracted with an outside provider in the one application, they would be losing \$30-50 per ride. Discussion ensued. Jen Teague drafted a list of questions to ask MountainCare.

- f. Day Stay is an adult day program but is not licensed as adult day care. Day Stay took a hiatus due to COVID and staff transitions and is working on getting licensed again. Funding would come from BCSAF if granted.
 - g. There were questions about the Community Health Workers Program expansion. Jen Teague will send questions to Brea Kuykendall.
- IV. Review Funding Expenditures and Possible Reallocations - February
- a. Units of Service
 - b. Buncombe County Supplemental Aging Funds (BCSAF)
- V. Determine Action Items and Next Steps
- a. Committee members should send additional questions to Jen Teague by Monday, March 27. Jen Teague will compile the list of questions and send them to the providers by Friday, March 31, and give them a week to respond.
 - b. Jen Teague will send out individual spreadsheets to the Committee members.
 - c. Committee members should adjust their recommendations either in the spreadsheet or the grant logon by Wednesday, April 19 making sure to keep the funding under 2.2 million including IHA.