

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 2/26/2025

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: ZOOM Only

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

Not in attendance: Dan Beerman

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

- II. Review Funding Expenditure Reports
 - a. Units of Service – Reviewed
 - i. Providers should have spent 58% of HCCBG funding and most providers were on track except for Council on Aging and United Community Development.
 - ii. Council on Aging had to shut down dining sites due to damage from the storm and a couple of dining sites had lead in their pipes which needed to be tested before bringing participants back to the sites.
 - iii. Zack, Susan, and Billie met with Dee/United Community Development to discuss match. There hasn't been any updates since then. Monitoring will be pushed back since UCD hasn't spent any funding yet. Zack will follow up with Dee.
 - iv. All of HCCBG funding will be spent by the end of the year as normal.
 - b. Buncombe County Supplemental Aging Funds (BCSAF) – Reviewed

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- i. There was a reduction of \$125,000 in the BCSAF funding – In-Home Aide (IHA) was reduced by \$121,000 and DayStay was reduced by \$4,000.
- ii. UNETE started their Latino Elder Club, Mi Vida, in January; they held three sessions.
- iii. Eblen Charities has spent 85% of their funding and will probably spend the rest in February.
- iv. Working Wheels had 4 active repair cases but weren't able to close them; the cases will be closed in February. Working Wheels also had meetings with their referral partners about the vehicle repair program for adults age 60 and older.
- v. IHA program is picking back up after the storm. Clients are being moved around with the various contracts and are being served.
- vi. Susan requested that the FY25 reallocations be finished by the end of April, so we don't have to shuffle funding around at the last minute.
- vii. If there is BCSAF funding for FY26, the amount received will be \$489,000 instead of \$500,000 since this is what was actually spent the last fiscal year (FY24).

III. Discussion of Advocacy for BCSAF

- a. Billie communicated with BCSAF funded providers that the funding would not be known until after the March 20, 2025 County Commissioners budget meeting. The providers are aware that there may not be BCSAF funding in FY26.
- b. Susan attended the Commissioners meeting on 2/18/25 to provide public comment informing the Commissioners about the two funding sources (HCCBG and BCSAF) and asked to them to maintain the BCSAF funding. Susan provided examples of services provided by Working Wheels, DayStay, and OnTrack.
- c. Susan will be attending the March 4, 2025 Commissioners meeting to inform them about the BCSAF funding which sits in the HHS budget, specifically, DSS (part of a grant) and make sure they know that they have the final say in how this funding is spent each year.
- d. Discussion ensued about how to make sure that the BCSAF funding is a priority while the County accesses its FY26 budget. To view the discussion, please click on <https://engage.buncombecounty.org/x1728>.

IV. Determine Action Items and Next Steps

- a. Susan will send the committee her public comment from the February meeting.
- b. Susan will send an email to the BCSAF funded providers asking about the impact of Helene on their services as well as what a reduction or loss of BCSAF funding would have on their organizations. Suzanne will take the lead in drafting the email. Suzanne also offered to draft an email to the Commissioners.
- c. Susan will draft a new public comment for the upcoming Commissioners meeting and circulate it with Melissa, Eileen, and Suzanne.

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- d. Melissa and Eileen will attend the upcoming Commissioners meeting to provide support to Susan.
- e. Billie will email the grants administrator about releasing the HCCBG applications after 5:00 pm on Friday, March 7, 2025.