



Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to approve the Home and Community Care Block Grant Plan (HCCBG) for FY2018-2019. The HCCBG, as authorized in G.S. 143B-181.1 (a) (11), is designed to improve the planning and coordination of in-home and community based services provided to North Carolina's older adults. It is also intended to promote the visibility of aging programs at the local level by giving counties increased flexibility with respect to funding aging services available through the Block Grant. The majority of funding comprising the HCCBG is authorized by the federal Older Americans Act. There are federal mandates and priorities established by the Older Americans Act. However, the legislation provides for state and local discretion in the funding of particular services and programs.

The Durham County Department of Social Services and the Durham Center for Senior Life are co-lead agencies for receiving the funds and administering the programs. The goal of services provided under this grant is to enable recipients to stay at home longer; receiving the care and services they need in their own homes, thus reducing the necessity for out of home placement. Services provided are Adult Day Care Services, Congregate Meals, Senior Center Operations, Information and Case Assistance, Transportation, Home Delivered Meals and In-Home Aide Services.

The funding has been incorporated into the FY 2019 Budget.

Background/Justification

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacted Senate Bill 165, Chapter 241 of the 1991 Session Laws. This legislation established a Home and Community Block Grant for Older Adults and was supported by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. The Block Grant combines certain federal and state appropriations supporting home and community care for older adults, which are currently administered by the Division of Aging and Social Services.

In 1989, the General Assembly established an Advisory Committee on Home and Community Care. This committee was specifically required to consider development of a "common funding stream" for services to older adults. The HCCBG Block Grant is a specific recommendation of this committee.

County aging plans, which set the overall priorities and course for aging, are the basis for the receipt of block grant funds, and as such, define the roles of local agencies in providing services at the county level and meeting the needs of such groups. Decisions on target groups and service priorities are developed in accordance with state guidelines and the principle of local flexibility and choice.

The County Commissioners in each county are ultimately responsible for the HCCBG Block Grant. The County Commissioners appoint a lead agency (DSS and Durham Center for Senior Life are co-lead agencies); appoint a HCCBG Advisory Committee and approve the Funding Plan. Each May, the Board of County Commissioners approves the HCCBG Plan for the following fiscal year.



Policy Impact

The agenda item is consistent with historical HCCBG Agenda Action Forms approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Procurement Background

N/A

Fiscal Impact

The HCCBG Advisory Committee helps prepare a County-based aging plan; identifies priority services for older adults within the county and completes the funding plan by determining which services will be funded and how much funding for each service.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommend that the BOCC approve the Home and Community Care Block Grant Funding Plan for FY2018-2019.