



### **Agenda Action Form Overview**

The Board is requested to approve the Budget Ordinance Amendment to recognize funds in the amount of \$57,110 from the University of North Carolina-Chapel to support a second Formerly Incarcerated Transition Community Health Worker position (1 FTE)

### **Background/Justification**

The Formerly Incarcerated Transition Program (FIT) was established in Durham County in FY16-17. The FIT program utilizes existing state and local resources to assist formerly incarcerated persons suffering from chronic disease with all aspects of successful reentry including a linkage to medical services. The Durham FIT program is based on the national Transitions Clinic Network (TCN) model founded by the University of California, San Francisco. Lincoln Community Health Center is now a Transition Clinic Network site. Along with the Durham County Department of Public Health and Lincoln Community Health Center, other key partners in the FIT Program are the Department of Family Medicine at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, the Durham Criminal Justice Resource Center and North Carolina Departments of Public Health. FIT program goals include: 1) Connection to needed resources and 2) Reduction in preventable negative health events, emergency room utilization, hospitalization (and increased chances of disability) and recidivism.

A key component of the FIT program is the hiring of a Community Health Worker (CHW) who has previous experience in and/or working with the criminal justice system. The Durham County Department of Public Health hired the first FIT CHW in February, 2017. The CHW works individually with participants to connect them with health information and health care services and assists in the navigation of these services. The CHW position is a County supported position. The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill received a National Institute of Drug Abuse grant to support another FIT Community Health Worker position to work in collaboration with the Durham County Detention Center's Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program. The Durham County Department of Public Health is a sub-recipient of the grant and grant funds will be administered by UNC-Chapel.

### **Policy Impact**

The agenda item is consistent with policy that supports programs and services for improved health outcomes in Durham County.

### **Procurement Background**

Procurement of operational supplies will use the approved Durham County procurement procedures; the funds will not cover any capital expenses.

### **Fiscal Impact**

These funds will add into the Durham County Department of Public Health budget. Funds will be used for salary, fringe benefits and operational costs.

### **Recommendation**

The County Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve this Budget Ordinance Amendment to recognize funds in the amount of \$57,110 from the University of North



Carolina-Chapel to support a second Formerly Incarcerated Transition Community Health Worker position (1 FTE).