

Item Title: FY2027 County Funding Plan for the Home and Community Care Block Grant

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves the FY2027 Home and Community Care Block Grant County Funding Plan as submitted by Wake County Social Services, Meals on Wheels of Wake County, and Resources for Seniors, Inc., and authorizes appropriate County officials to affix required signatures.

Item Summary:

Purpose: Federal law requires that the local County jurisdiction approve the plans on how the Home and Community Care Block Grant funds will be allocated.

Background: The Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) for Older Adults is a combination of state and federal monies made available to the local community from the North Carolina Department of Aging and Adult Services and through the Central Pines Regional Council Area Agency on Aging. The funds are used to purchase services such as home delivered and congregate meals, information & case assistance, overnight respite care, adult day care, in-home aide, home accessibility/safety, health promotion activities, etc. Upon approval, the funds will be sent directly from Central Pines Regional Council to Resources for Seniors, Inc. and Meals on Wheels of Wake County.

Strategic Plan: This action supports Community Health and Wellbeing Goal 4: By 2029, three out of four residents asked will indicate low barriers to accessing benefits and assistance programs and resources, such as food and utilities, childcare, employment services, housing, etc.

Fiscal Impact: The Department of Social Services is estimated to receive \$4,759,676 in funding for the FY2027 Home and Community Care Block Grant. The County's required local match is estimated at \$528,853, which is included in the FY2027 General Fund budget.

Additional Information:

Wake County does not operate as a pass-through agent for these funds. Agencies receive their designated allocations directly from Central Pines Regional Council, while the County provides the required local match. The FY2027 proposed budget includes an estimated County match of \$528,853. The breakdown per agency currently is as follows:

Agency	HCCBG Funds	County Match Requirement	Total Funding	Projected HCCBG Clients
Meals on Wheels	\$1,903,871	\$211,541	\$2,115,412	2,184
Resources for Seniors	\$2,855,805	\$317,312	\$3,173,117	9,842
Total	\$4,759,676	\$528,853	\$5,288,529	12,026

The HCCBG grant and the County's matching contribution have enabled Resources for Seniors and Meals on Wheels to serve 13,384 people throughout Wake County from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026. A distribution of those services is shown in the charts below. Please note, fewer people will be served by Resources for Seniors and Meals on Wheels in FY2026 due to an increase in the cost of providing services.

Resources for Seniors, Inc.:

Services	Clients served July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	Clients served July 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026
Overnight Respite	0	5
Health Promotion	278	612
Senior Center Operations	5,407	0
In Home Aide (all types)	141	151
Adult Day Care & Day Health	63	71
Information & Referral	6,361	10,017
Transportation (Grocery Shopping & Medical)	57	0
Housing and Home Improvement (Ramps / Hot H2O Heaters)	35	23
Total	12,342	10,879

Meals on Wheels of Wake County:

Block Grant Services	Clients served July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	Clients served July 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026
Home Delivered Meals	1,857	1,837
Congregate Meals	687	668
Total	2,544	2,505

The table below displays the HCCBG funds allocated to Wake County for the past five years, plus the current year:

Fiscal Year	26-27	25-26	24-25	23-24	22-23	21-22
HCCBG Allocation	\$4,759,676	\$4,567,070	\$4,579,952	\$4,446,247	\$4,314,358	\$4,291,066

The rate of growth in the 60+ population in our County is outpacing all other groups. Without the County's commitment to matching these funds with local dollars, the funding

would not come to residents of Wake County. Due to Wake County's population growth outpacing most other regions of the state, and the percentage of that growth that includes persons ages 60 and older, the allocation for Wake County has typically increased more rapidly than most other counties. However, FY26 reflected a decrease in the allocation.

The need for home and community-based services continues to grow exponentially, and the increased cost of services is putting downward pressure on service levels in some of the most important categories, such as In Home Aide and Adult Day Care, both of which are influential in allowing older adults to delay long term care placement.

Attachments:

None.