

Item Title: FY 2026 Home and Community Care Block Grant County Funding Plan

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves the FY 2026 Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) County Funding Plan, as submitted by Wake County Health and Human Services, Meals on Wheels of Wake County, and Resources for Seniors, Inc., and authorizes appropriate County officials to affix necessary signatures.

Item Summary:

Purpose: Federal law requires that the local County jurisdiction, Wake County Board of Commissioners, 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 combines state and federal monies made available to the local community from the Division on Aging and Adult Services and through the Central Pines Regional Council Area Agency on Aging. The funds purchase services such as home delivered and congregate meals, transportation, information and case assistance, overnight respite care, adult day care, in-home aide, and home accessibility/safety. 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 FY 2026 Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) provides \$4,579,952 in funding to community agencies, which will be sent directly from Central Pines Regional Council Area Agency on Aging to Resources for Seniors, Inc., and Meals on Wheels of Wake County. This grant requires a local County match of \$508,884. The County will satisfy this match requirement using funds already budgeted in the Wake County Social Services General Fund FY 2026 budget. No additional County appropriation is required.

Additional Information:

The allocations per county have been carried forward from FY 2025 funding from North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS), Division of Aging and Adult Services. It is important to note that final allocations may not be received until after this agenda item is submitted, and Wake County may be responsible for a small

adjustment upward in local matching dollars once final allocations are released. A total of \$4,579,952 has been apportioned for Wake County for fiscal year 2026. Wake County does not operate as a pass-through agent for these funds. Agencies receive their designated allocations directly from Central Pines Regional Council. However, the County does match each of these allocations with local dollars. The County's total current share of the match is \$508,884. The funds have been identified in the Human Services' fiscal year 2026 proposed budget. The breakdown per agency currently is as follows:

Agency	HCCBG Funds	County Match Requirement	Total Funding	Projected HCCBG Clients
Meals on Wheels of Wake County	\$1,850,883	\$205,653	\$2,056,536	2,108
Resources for Seniors, Inc.	\$2,729,069	\$303,231	\$3,032,300	9,846
Total	\$4,579,952	\$508,884	\$5,088,836	11,954

The HCCBG grant and the County's matching contribution have enabled Resources for Seniors, Inc. and Meals on Wheels of Wake County to serve 14,886 people throughout Wake County from July 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025. Fewer people will be served by Resources for Seniors in FY 2026 due to an increase in the cost of providing services.

Resources for Seniors, Inc.:

Services	Clients served July 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	Clients served July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025
Overnight Respite	8	0
Health Promotion	0	278
Senior Center Operations	6,717	5,407
In Home Aide (all types)	163	141
Adult Day Care & Day Health	66	63
Information & Referral	6,047	6,361
Transportation (Grocery Shopping & Medical)	71	57
Housing and Home Improvement (Ramps / Hot H2O Heaters)	39	35
Total	13,111	12,342

Meals on Wheels of Wake County:

Block Grant Services	Clients served July 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024	Clients served July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025
Home Delivered Meals	1,794	1,857
Congregate Meals	795	687
Total	2,589	2,544

The table below displays the HCCBG funds allocated to Wake County for the past five years and the estimated amount for the fiscal year 2025 – 2026 funding period:

Fiscal Year	2025 - 2026	2024 - 2025	2023 - 2024	2022 - 2023	2021 - 2022	2020 - 2021
HCCBG Allocation	\$4,579,952	\$4,579,952	\$4,446,247	\$4,314,358	\$4,291,066	\$3,919,260

The rate of growth in the 60+ population in Wake County is outpacing all other groups. Without the County's commitment to match 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 increased more rapidly than most other counties.

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.