

**Item Title:** North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Office of Economic Opportunity Community Services Block Grant July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners takes specific action to approve the submission of Application for grant funds for Community Services Block Grant to NC Office of Economic Opportunity, designating Passage Home as the Community Action Agency for Wake County.**

**Item Summary:**

The North Carolina Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) has designated Passage Home as the Community Action Agency since 2013. This 4<sup>th</sup> year of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding totaling \$1,292,047 will allow Passage Home to continue two anti-poverty programs within Wake County: Family Self Sufficiency and Youth Education. Passage Home's mission statement is to break the cycle of poverty for the communities they serve in Wake County. They do this by connecting families and neighborhoods to resources and opportunities. The agency expects to assist at least 340 families using these funds in fiscal year 2016-17.

Passage Home implements a comprehensive case management approach to youth, families, and individuals living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. Comprehensive case management includes an action plan containing achievable metrics and time-sensitive goals in order to provide each enrolled individual or family with direct assistance and community referrals in the areas of: housing, financial literacy, job training and development, education, nutrition, and pro-social activities for youth. All established goals and action plans are assessed on a monthly basis in order to discuss participant needs, successes, and obstacles. Continuing education and training of staff will further enhance the ability to assist qualified program participants to meet outcomes.

CSBG funds have helped Passage Home to produce the following outcomes for fiscal year 2014-2015:

- Agency served 363 families consisting of 712 individuals
- 90% of employed participants maintained employment for at least 90 days
- 73% of Self-Sufficiency families obtained or maintained housing
- 65% of Self-Sufficiency families successfully maintained a budget for at least 90 days
- 70% of all families secured income, with an average increase of over \$10,000 per year; 65% of this income was from employment

- Passage Home helped move 18 families out of poverty last year
- 98% of all youth program participants avoided juvenile justice system involvement
- 74% of all youth participants tested as reading at grade level
- 95% of youth participants increased their academic skills as evidenced by end of year report cards
- 93% of all youth participants were promoted to the next grade
- 100% of our program participants that were high school seniors graduated from high school

**Attachments:**

1. CSBG Application
2. Budget Summary
3. Resolution to Approve Submittal of Grant Application