

**Item Title:** Establish Two Full-Time Positions for the Medicaid Program

**Specific Action Requested:**  
**That the Board of Commissioners:**

- 1. Accepts and appropriates an additional \$68,214 from the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) and \$41,796 from WakeMed Hospital;**
- 2. Establishes 1.0 full-time (FTE) Human Services Technician position, and 1.0 full-time (FTE) Human Services Case Manager position to conduct eligibility determination for Medicaid benefits.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** The Board of Commissioners must approve all additional revenues and new FTE positions added to the FY 2020 Adopted Ordinance.

**Background:** Wake County and WakeMed Hospitals have had a partnership for more than 20 years. This partnership has been very effective in providing access to medical benefits at the point of service and has reduced the amount of uncompensated care provided by WakeMed. Individuals who are eligible for Medicaid can access a primary care provider and other medical services needed. There are currently 32 Human Services employees located at WakeMed, providing Medicaid enrollment services to all patients at the Raleigh, Cary, North, and Garner campuses. WakeMed pays for all the non-Federal costs of salaries and fringe benefits for these employees, which constitutes the required Medicaid local match. The County also has a partnership with Rex Hospital in which they provide the funding for one Medicaid case manager.

This action will add an additional 4 positions at WakeMed facilities to keep up with growing service demand. The positions will be funded with State and Wakemed funds.

**Board Goal:** This action supports routine County operations.

**Fiscal Impact:** The County will receive an additional \$68,214 from NCDHHS and \$41,796 from WakeMed Hospital for Medicaid eligibility determination. The additional positions are fully-funded with State revenues and local revenues from WakeMed, requiring no increase in County funds.

**Additional Information:**

Medicaid case managers determine eligibility for a variety of Medicaid programs based on financial eligibility. WCHS employs 188.0 FTE Medicaid case managers with 32.0 FTE located at WakeMed.

Placing staff at WakeMed locations streamlines Medicaid enrollment for uninsured patients who receive care at WakeMed campuses. Obtaining Medicaid ensures the patient can follow up with a primary care physician for routine health care needs and can obtain medications and other health care services. These patients will no longer need to rely solely upon emergency rooms for their care. They will have resources to obtain consistent care from a specific physician. Human Services staff work in the Emergency Department during evening and weekend hours in order to evaluate uninsured patients.

WakeMed has requested two additional positions to screen uninsured patients for potential Medicaid eligibility who have been treated in their emergency departments. There are always 500 - 600 patients waiting to be screened. The two staff will perform this screening on an ongoing basis. The additional staff will follow up with patients to assist them with providing the information needed to process the Medicaid application. These will be long term positions funded by WakeMed, in which WakeMed pays the county share of 25%, and 75% is received in federal reimbursement.

With Medicaid Transformation currently being implemented, the addition of these two positions will be critical to ensure successful Medicaid enrollment for additional uninsured patients.

The fiscal year 2020 adopted budget is amended to include the increased allocations for 2.0 FTE new positions at WakeMed:

<b>Revenue Source</b>	<b>FY 2020 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>FY 2020 Amended Budget</b>
Medicaid/ Health Choice (NCDHHS)	1,142,121	68,214	1,210,335
Local Match (WakeMed)	434,699	41,796	476,495
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,576,820</b>	<b>\$110,010</b>	<b>\$1,686,830</b>
<b>Expenditure Type</b>	<b>FY 2020 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>FY 2020 Amended Budget</b>
Salary/Benefits and Operating	2,034,413	110,010	2,144,423
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,034,413</b>	<b>\$110,010</b>	<b>\$2,144,423</b>

Prior year budgets are listed in the table below:

<b>Revenue Source</b>	<b>FY 2016 Actual Revenue</b>	<b>FY 2017 Actual Revenue</b>	<b>FY 2018 Actual Revenue</b>	<b>FY 2019 Actual Revenue</b>
Medicaid/ Health Choice (NCDHHS)	971,770	980,466	1,169,611	968,781
Local Match (WakeMed)	396,140	470,034	575,558	607,307
Total	\$1,367,910	\$1,450,500	\$1,745,169	\$1,738,796*
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>FY 2016 Actual Expense</b>	<b>FY 2017 Actual Expense</b>	<b>FY 2018 Actual Expense</b>	<b>FY 2019 Actual Expense</b>
Salary/Benefits and Operating	1,266,181	1,466,127	1,805,107	2,015,479
Total	\$1,266,181	\$1,466,127	\$1,805,107	\$2,015,479

\* FY 2019 actual revenues have not been fully collected. The State will send remaining Medicaid/Health Choice revenue by September 2019.

**Attachments:**

1. Budget Memo