

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
AGENDA ITEM

MEETING DATE: February 16, 2010

**Action Requested:** Increase Innovative Approaches program budget by \$120,833 to reflect new state funding.

Based upon a 2007 survey conducted by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, approximately 1 in every 7 children under the age of 18 can be classified as having special health care needs. These children have a significantly increased risk of having their healthcare needs unmet, leading to additional issues such as poor dental health and behavioral problems. It is also estimated that families of children with special healthcare needs (CSHCN) will spend more than three times the national average for their child's care.

Buncombe County has a need for the creation of a family-focused, community-based system of care for families of CSHCN. Barriers to creation of a successful system of care are many: lack of resource information in medical home offices, insufficient reimbursement rates, reduction of case management hours, fragmentation of adult transitional services and incompatible data systems between providers are just a few of the many issues identified by local survey participants. Funding from the *Innovative Approaches: A Local System Improvement Approach for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs* program will allow Buncombe County and its partners to implement and evaluate the effectiveness of new strategies to create an effective, coordinated system of care for the CSHCN population.

NCGS Requiring Service: N/A

NCGS requires we PROVIDE:

or ENSURE AVAILABLE IN COMMUNITY:

Alternative Service Delivery Methods considered and evaluated:

Funds/Staff requested: There are no county funds or staff requested.

Request submitted by: Jim Holland for Gibbie Harris

Date Submitted: February 5, 2010