

Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

AGENDA ITEM: Modification of Lease and Option to Purchase for Minnie Jones Health Center at 257 and 283 Biltmore Avenue	
MEETING DATE: March 18, 2014	
REQUESTED BY: Jim Holland for Amanda L. Stone	
Background information Buncombe County Health & Human Services contracts for the delivery of adult and child primary care services, prenatal care services, and dental services with Western North Carolina Community Health Services (WNCCHS). The County leases the space at 257 and 283 Biltmore Avenue (connected structures with two addresses) to WNCCHS for the operation of the Minnie Jones Health Center to provide these medical and dental services to low-income under and uninsured Buncombe County residents. This modification would extend the option to purchase until June 30, 2016 in return for WNCCHS serving an additional 1,500 patients (total of 3,000) in each of the next two fiscal years. The original lease in 2009 provided for service to 10,000 Buncombe County residents and was modified in 2012 to serve an additional 3,000 patients in return for an extension through June of 2014. With this modification, the total number of patients covered by this agreement will be 16,000.	
Pro's By serving an additional 3,000 patients over the next two years (through June 30, 2016), WNCCHS will be able to increase safety net services to a population that has been unable to access traditional medical care. Most of these patients delay care until a critical health care crisis arises. This impacts the patients' long-term health as well as negatively impacts an already-strained safety net health care system. These additional patients served will decrease health care costs for our community.	Con's Capacity to serve low-income under and uninsured patients will continue to be limited and more and more patients will postpone care and will be forced to access critical care through Emergency Departments. Further, these patients will lack access to pharmaceuticals, often resulting in multiple visits to either the Emergency Department or inpatient hospitalization. This will continue to strain the safety net and increase the overall cost of health care to all citizens.
Funds required No Funds are required.	
Alternatives Maintain the same number of patients served at Minnie Jones Health Center.	
Action recommended: Approve an extension of the Original Lease and Option to Purchase for 257 and 283 Biltmore Avenue for WNCCHS through June 30, 2016.	