Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

AGENDA ITEM:

Budget Amendment for Healthy Communities program (Buncombe County Health & Human Services – Public Health).

MEETING DATE: January 6, 2015

REQUESTED BY: Jim Holland for Gibbie Harris

Background information

The leading preventable causes of death in the state are tobacco use, unhealthy diet, inadequate physical activity, poor chronic disease management, and unintentional injury. The Healthy Communities program seeks to address the risk factors related to these causes of death. The program provides counties with resources to develop and implement policy, systems, and environmental change interventions that improve local food systems, increase food security, promote active living through planning, reduce and prevent tobacco use, and prevent chronic diseases, violence and injuries.

BCHHS will use the additional funds to support evaluation and quality improvement through a contract with MAHEC to continue to build the online scorecard and data collection process. Consultant services will be obtained to work under the Community Improvement Specialists at MAHEC to enable the timely build-out of the online scorecard. The Results Scorecard is a data and collaboration tool to help non-profit and government organizations create collective, measurable impact. MAHEC, BCHHS and community partners will use the scorecard to organize work around community-identified health priorities, define means to measure progress, share data, and use information to drive their strategies and activities.

Pro's

- Reduces deaths due to preventable causes in populations at greatest risk
- Emphasizes obtaining accurate data to inform and engage leaders who can make policy, systems, and environmental change decisions

Con's

None

Funds required

No county funds are required.

Alternatives

Action recommended:

Increase Healthy Communities budget by \$20,625 to reflect additional federal funding.