Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

AGENDA ITEM:

Approval of the recommendation of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service to enter into an agreement with Black Mountain Children's Home for the programming of the 4H Camp in Swannanoa. The RFP was issued following a decision by the State to no longer operate the Camp.

MEETING DATE:

June 2, 2015

REQUESTED BY: Mandy Stone, MSW Assistant County Manager/HHS Director

Background information

The NC Cooperative Extensive Agency issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for programming the 4H Camp in Swannanoa. As a result of that process they have recommended awarding the bid to Black Mountain Children's Home. The proposal is to use the camp mainly for the residents of their programs, but also to occasionally house volunteer groups for service work on their campus and at camp.

One of the main goals of their proposal is to expand their ministry and to develop a technical/vocational program for their older residents, so they have a skill/trade after they graduate from high school or with their GED.

Buncombe HHS was engaged in the process and supports the recommendation as it will serve children who currently reside in our County and this represent a core target population.

The Board of Commissioners must endorse the recommendation.

Pro's

- Maximizes use of the facility
- Serves a core population
- No new/ additional demands on HHS, EMS or Law Enforcement
- Provides a camping experience for a high need/risk population
- Supports children in the foster care system who are transitioning to adulthood

Con's

None identified

Funds required

No County funds involved and no anticipated additional work demands on HHS, Law enforcement, Courts, education or health care systems.

Alternatives

The Camp would not be used until another vendor is identified and approved.

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Endorsement of the recommendation of the NC Cooperative Extensive Agency to approve Black Mountain Children Home to operate the programming at the 4H Camp in Swananaoa.