



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 8/6/2019

Consent Agenda

Department: Strategic Partnerships

Presenter(s): Jennifer Barnette, Budget

Contact(s): Jennifer Barnette, Budget; Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships

Subject: Resolution for NC Governor's Highway Safety Program Grant – DWI Court 2020

Brief Summary:

This is a continuation grant for Buncombe County's DWI Treatment Court (also known as Sobriety Court) through the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program. Buncombe County applied for and was awarded a federal grant award of \$56,443. The local match amount of \$56,443 is appropriated in the FY2020 general fund budget within the Behavioral Health cost center.

The court, operated by RHA Health Services, is a diversion/sentencing alternative program for repeat DWI offenders that reside in Buncombe County and are referred by the Office of the District Attorney and is presided over by the Honorable District Court Judge Julie Kepple. The primary outcome is to decrease the number of repeat DWI offenders in Buncombe County. Services include assertive case management, treatment compliance monitoring and referral. The grant provides funding for personnel costs, drug testing equipment and services, continuous alcohol monitoring equipment and services, client support services, substance abuse treatment, bus passes and travel expenses.

In order to accept the grant, the Board of Commissioners must pass a Local Government Resolution authorizing the county manager to enter into a contract with the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program for the funds and approve a grants project ordinance to appropriate the funds.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

- Approve the Local Government Resolution accepting the DWI Court 2020 Grant.
- Approve the grant projects ordinance of \$56,443 to establish the DWI Court 2020 Grant.

County Manager's comments and Recommendation:

The County Manager agrees with this recommendation.