



## Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

### Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 2/18/2020

#### New Business

**Department:**

Budget

**Presenter(s):**

Jennifer Barnette, Budget

**Contact(s):** Jan Shepard, Public Health Director

**Subject:** Community Linkages to Care for Overdose Prevention and Response

**Brief Summary:**

Buncombe County Public Health is being provided new federal funding in the amount of \$50,000 through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) via the NC Department of Public Health. The program is called Community Linkages to Care and will provide linkage to health care and Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) via a Peer Support Specialist (PSS) to those ineligible for the Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) pilot who are exiting the Buncombe County Detention Facility. The funding will be used for the purchase of contracted PSS services through Sunrise Community For Recovery. The funding also allows the PSS to attend a conference and covers his/her local mileage. The PSS will be cross-trained as a Community Health Worker so that he/she can better assist in expanding access to healthcare for individuals struggling with co-morbid substance use/physical health and mental health issues. The funding will also cover a portion of the salary of a half-time county grant-funded position (Opioid Response Coordinator) approved in November in order to make it a full-time grant-funded position. Finally, the allocation also includes a small fund to pay for expenses post-release such as ID, security deposit, and other costs that keep individuals from moving forward.

**Recommended Motion & Requested Action:**

- 1) Approve time limited full time grant funded position in place of previously approved half time grant
- 2) Approve budget amendment

**County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:**

County Manager recommends as presented