



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 7/21/2020

Consent Agenda

Department: Health & Human Services (HHS)

Presenter(s): Stoney Blevins, HHS Director

Contact(s): Stoney Blevins

Subject: Approve the Annual Billing Guide for Public Health Services

Brief Summary: The information in the Billing Guide is the fee plan for FY21, to be effective upon approval. The Billing Guide provides guidance on how the department sets and collects fees for each of its programs and provides eligibility requirements for the users of said programs. This Billing Guide for FY21 replaces all earlier plans.

North Carolina law (North Carolina General Statute 153A-77(d)) allows a local health department to charge fees for services as long as:

1. Service fees are based on a plan (the Billing Guide) recommended by the Health Director. This plan is approved by the Buncombe County Health and Human Services (BCHHS) Board and the County Commissioners.
2. The health department does not provide the service as an agent of the State.
3. And the fees are not against the law in any way.

The purpose of charging fees is to increase resources and use them to meet residents' needs in a fair and balanced way. Fees are necessary to help cover the full cost of providing recommended and needed health services. We consider the market rate, cost of service and Medicaid rate when establishing fees. The Public Health fee schedule for SFY 2021 was approved by Commissioners as a part of the annual Buncombe County budget.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action: Approve the SFY 2021 Billing Guide for HHS Public Health Services

County Manager's comments and Recommendation: County Manager recommends approval.