



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 1/19/2021

New Business

Department:

Health & Human Services

Presenter(s):

Jennifer Barnette

Contact(s):

Stoney Blevins, HHS
Jennifer Barnette, Budget

Subject:

CARES Funding for Low-Income Energy Assistance

Brief Summary:

Buncombe County Health and Human Services will spend \$485,577 to expand the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP).

The General Assembly passed Session Law 2020-4, the 2020 COVID-19 Recovery Act, which appropriated federal CARES Act funding. The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program is a seasonal program that provides for a one-time vendor payment to help eligible households pay their heating bills. To be eligible for LIEAP, a household must:

- Have at least one U.S. citizen or non-citizen who meets the eligibility criteria
- Have income equal to or less than 130% of the federal poverty limit
- Have resources, such as saving and checking accounts and cash on hand, at or below \$2,250
- Be responsible for their heating cost

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approve budget amendment

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented