



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: February 2, 2021

New Business

Presenter(s):

Phillip Hardin

Jennifer Barnette

Requesting Department: Health and Human Services

Budget Amendment Item: Emergency Rental Assistance Grant

Contact(s): Phillip Hardin, Economic Services Director
Jennifer Barnette, Budget

Subject: Emergency Rental Assistance

Brief Summary:

Buncombe County has received a grant in the amount of \$7,877,876 from the U.S. Department of the Treasury for Emergency Rental Assistance. This program is to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds may be used for direct financial assistance, including rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utilities and home energy cost arrears, and other expenses related to housing. The funds generally expire on December 31, 2021 but may be eligible for a 90 day extension. Up to 10% of the grant may be used for Administrative costs. The Health and Human Services department will be administering this grant and is requesting four grant-funded positions (one full-time Grant Manager position, and 3 other full-time positions to assist in determining eligibility and processing transactions) and will also use five existing HHS staff. A small portion of the grant will be used for office supplies and other needs to administer the grant.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

1. Approve four grant-funded positions
2. Approve budget amendment

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented