



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 1/18/2022

New Business

Requesting Department:

Health and Human Services

Presenter(s):

John Hudson, Budget

Contact(s):

Phillip Hardin, Economic Services Division Director

Subject:

Additional funding for Low-Income Energy Assistance

Brief Summary:

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. NC DHHS is providing funding from two sources to the County for a total of \$1,887,432. All funds will be disbursed through Eblen Charities.

NC DHHS is allocating \$217,512 in regular federal funding (\$214,290 for payments and \$3,222 for the administration of the program) for eligible households to pay their heating bills.

NC DHHS is also distributing \$1,669,920 in ARPA funds for an automatically authorized payment for households with children age 0-10 that are receiving FNS and received LIEAP last Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (\$1,483,989 for direct payments and \$185,931 for the administration of the program). Automatically authorized payments will be generated based on the households primary heating source. Households will receive \$300 for wood, \$400 for gas and \$500 for electric.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approve budget amendment

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented