Proclamation

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Whereas, Buncombe County is home to over 78,000 older Americans over the age of sixty, who contribute their time, wisdom, and experience to our community, thus, benefiting the economic, social, and cultural wellbeing of Buncombe County; and

Whereas, communities benefit when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are welcomed, included, and supported; and

Whereas, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners and partner agencies recognize our need to create a community that provides the services and supports older Americans need to thrive and live independently for as long as possible; and

Whereas, Buncombe County can work to build an even better community for our older residents by:

- Planning programs that encourage participation in work, civic, and community life,
- Ensuring activities are responsive to individual needs and preferences,
- Increasing access to services that support aging in place,
- Embracing the diversity of older Americans in our community, and
- Emphasizing the positive views of aging and acknowledging that all of us are aging.

Now, therefore, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 2023 to be **Older Americans Month**. We urge every resident to recognize the contributions of our older neighbors, help to create an inclusive society, and join efforts to support older Americans' choices about how they age in their communities.

Brownie Newman, Chairman

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Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

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