

## Older Americans Month 2024

**WHEREAS,** Buncombe County is home to over **78,367** older Americans over the age of 60 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 and safely with dignity 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 and promote social connections in work, civic, and community life;
- Ensuring activities are responsive to individual needs and preferences;
- Increasing access to services that support aging in place;
- Preventing abuse, neglect, and exploitation;
- 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 2024 to be Older Americans Month.

We urge every resident to recognize the contributions of our older residents, help to create an inclusive society, and join efforts to support older Americans' choices about how they age in their communities.

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Brownie Newman, Chairman  
Buncombe County Board of Commissioners