

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH MAY 2025

WHEREAS, Buncombe County is home to 78,892 older Americans over the age of sixty, who contribute their time, wisdom, and life experiences to our community, thus benefiting the economic, social, and cultural well-being 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 an age-friendly 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 is working 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
- Emphasizing the positive views of aging and acknowledging that all of us are aging,

NOW THEREFORE, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim **May 2025** as **Older Americans Month** in Buncombe County. The 2025 theme, *Flip the Script on Aging*, focuses on transforming how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging. It encourages individuals and communities to challenge stereotypes and dispel misconceptions.

We urge every resident to join us to celebrate and recognize the contributions of our older citizens who are redefining what it means to age. By working together to help create an inclusive community and supporting our older residents in aging well in Buncombe County, we can build a healthier and more meaningful future for all.

This 20th day of May, 2025



Amanda Edwards, Chair
Buncombe County Board of Commissioners