

# East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association's Dental Assistance Program

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*RFP for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal  
Recovery Funds*

## ***East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association***

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Ms. Renee White  
Post Office Box 7341  
Asheville, NC 28802

eastendvalleystreetassociation@gmail.com  
O: 2522589744  
M: 2522589744

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M: 2522589744

# Application Form

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## *Question Group*

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Buncombe County requests proposals for projects to help the community recover from and respond to COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts.

Buncombe County has been awarded \$50,733,290 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (Recovery Funding), as part of the American Rescue Plan Act. This infusion of federal resources is intended to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

Buncombe County is committed to investing these funds in projects that:

- Align to county strategic plan and community priorities
- Support equitable outcomes for most impacted populations
- Leverage and align with other governmental funding sources
- Make best use of this one-time infusion of resources
- Have a lasting impact

Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this RFP and any addenda issued hereto.

[Click here for the full terms and conditions of the RFP](#)

## **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds\***

Name of Project.

East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association's Dental Assistance Program

## **Amount of Funds Requested\***

\$450,000.00

## **Recovery Fund Eligible Category\***

Please select one:

Address disparities in public health outcomes

## **Brief Project Description\***

Provide a short summary of your proposed project.

The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association (EEVSNA) is requesting \$150,000 each year for three years (\$450,000) from Buncombe County's COVID-19 Recovery Funding to support the implementation of the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association's Dental Assistance Program. Funds will support dental services for 50 individuals a year for the program's term for the at-risk, vulnerable populations within

the community, & to support salaries & stipends for the Program Administrator, (3)Community Health Advocates, & Administrative Consultant. The marketing & outreach efforts will reach a minimum of 1,000 a month EEVSNA residents & well over 10,000 nonresidents a month via the Urban News & WRES.

During the initial stages of the COVID-19 regulations implementation, the leadership of EEVSNA created a stipend based program for community volunteers to complete health related home visits. During their visits, the Advocates repeatedly heard the need to have access to dental care.

## Project Plan\*

Explain how the project will be structured and implemented, including timeframe.

First Year: First quarter-Marketing & Outreach:

The Program Administrator will formalize the partnership with Western North Carolina Community Health Services & other private dental offices or agencies to take patients. The Administrator will begin the marketing & outreach efforts that have been developed & planned for community enrollment efforts, which includes placing announcements in the EENSNA's newsletter & social media pages, placing announcements in church bulletins, Urban News, & WRES.

Patient Enrollment: The Community Health Advocates will get the participants to complete their pre-assessment & will assist the elderly residents with completing their enrollment applications & submit them to the WNCCHS' staff to schedule an appointment. The staff of the Health Center will schedule appointments with the participants. The Community Health Advocate will follow-up with the participants to ensure that they have received a call to schedule an appointment from the Health Clinic & arrange transportation with Mountain Mobility or a Community Health Advocates' personal vehicle for the resident, if needed. Patients will complete a post-assessment after they have received their dental services.

For patients with limited mobility & vital needs, the Community Health Advocates will request appointments for the WNCCHS' mobile dental facility. The dental staff of WNCCHS & other private dental offices will provide the requested dental services each quarter.

Second & Third quarters: Marketing & Outreach: The Program Administrator will continue the efforts that were developed & implemented in the first quarter, while also taking pictures of clients with their consent & share their experience via the Community's newsletters. Additionally, a monthly community program will be held at Stephens Lee Community Recreation Center that focuses on Oral Hygiene. Residents who attend these events will receive healthy meals & dental related gifts. The goal is to have a minimum of 15 to 20 residents to attend each session.

Patient Enrollment: The Community Health Advocates will continue the efforts to enroll residents in the program for services, while also making referrals for other health related issues or home repair needs.

Analysis of Data: The EEVSNA's Board of Directors will review the data that has been collected & make modifications to the delivery of services or program operations based on the comments & survey results.

Fourth quarter: While the program will continue to operate based upon the previous quarters efforts, the EEVSNA's Board of Directors will look at ways to financially sustain the program via looking for additional funding sources & partners.

During years two and three, the program will continue to be implemented using the aforementioned parameters with modifications that are necessary due to issues brought forward in the data.

Please note: The Advocates will be provided tablets to assist with capturing data & completing the applications.

## Statement of Need\*

Describe the need that this project will address. Include data to demonstrate the need, and cite the source of the data.

According to the Buncombe 2018 Community Health Assessment . . . “Buncombe County is tenth in the state for quality of life; however, despite holding that significant rank the County has segments of the population who suffer poor health status. Those segments include the aging, people of color and those living in poverty.” Additionally, the assessment notes, “As described by Healthy People 2020, economic stability, education, health and healthcare, neighborhood and built environment, and social community and context are five important domains of social determinants of health. These factors are strongly correlated with individual health.” While the 2018 Community Health Assessment documented the causation of the social determinants of health, the coronavirus COVID-19 exposed the impact of not addressing those determinants in an effective holistic manner for the elderly population. Unfortunately, approximately 25% of adults in the United States have teeth with decay that has gone untreated (Anderson, 2021). Individuals between the ages 65 and 74 have lost at least one or more teeth (Anderson, 2021).

Additionally, the Center for Disease Control’s Oral Health and Covid-19 study notes that populations, including lower income, African Americans, and elderly, are at higher risk for chronic diseases and are more likely to have issues with oral care (2020). The study further noted that African Americans are one of the populations with the highest prevalence of issues with their dental health (Brian & Weintraub, 2020). A significant number of low wealth, elderly, and African American residents within the East End Valley Street Neighborhood have already admitted to needing dental care (Resident Survey, 2021). Residents have indicated the following issues: they have ill-fitted dentures, toothaches, underlying health conditions that are worsened due to issues with their oral health, and issues with their swollen and sore gums.

## Link to COVID-19\*

Identify a health or economic harm resulting from or exacerbated by the public health emergency, describe the nature and extent of that harm, and explain how the use of this funding would address such harm.

According to an article published on the Center for Disease Control’s website indicates that, “Populations disproportionately affected by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) are also at higher risk for oral diseases and experience oral health and oral health care disparities at higher rates” (Brian & Weintraub, 2020). The researchers stated, “Populations vulnerable to COVID-19, including those in low socioeconomic groups, minority groups, older adults, low-literacy individuals, those in rural areas, and the uninsured are also at increased risk for oral disease and associated systemic health problems (1). Minority populations are especially at risk during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notes that “non-Hispanic blacks, Hispanics, and American Indians and Alaska Natives generally have the poorest oral health of any racial and ethnic groups in the United States,” (2) and these same populations have disproportionately higher incidence of COVID-19–related infection and death (3)” (Brian & Weintraub, 2020).

The EEVSNA adopted it’s City of Asheville recognized 2021 Plan on a Page that indicates the neighborhood would, “Promote Health & Wellness for the East End Valley Street community.” In an effort to serve the needs of the residents during the pandemic the residents created a pantry to provide critical supplies, & one of the most used items are dental hygiene items.

Funds from Buncombe County will be used to address the most immediate dental needs & decrease the emerging concerns of low-income, elderly, & African American residents within the area. The funds will also allow the organization to garner leverage to find additional funds for the program.

Sources:

- 1 <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/publichealth/clinical/oralhealth/improvingaccess.pdf>.
- 2 [https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/oral\\_health\\_disparities/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/oral_health_disparities/index.htm).
- 3 <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/racial-ethnic-minorities.html>.

## Population Served\*

Define the population to be served by this project, including volume and demographic characteristics of those served.

The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association's area encompasses over 10,000 residents near downtown Asheville. According to the US Census, 58% of the residents are homeowners.

Total Population 13,683  
 Male Population 6,685 - 48.86%  
 Female Population 6,998 - 51.14 %

The Median Age - 38.4  
 Citizen US Born 13,065  
 Citizen not US Born 330  
 Not Citizen 288

Residents' employment:  
 White Collar 6,424 - 88.02%  
 Blue Collar 874 - 11.98%  
 Self Employees 1,381 - 18.92%  
 Private Companies 4,786 - 65.58%  
 Governmental Workers 612 - 8.39%  
 Not for Profit Companies 519 - 7.11%

Median and Average Income in East End - Valley Street

Average Household Income \$59,246.00  
 Median Household Income \$33,504.00  
 People below Poverty Level 3,093  
 People above Poverty Level 9,673

Source: <https://www.point2homes.com/US/Neighborhood/NC/Asheville/East-End-Valley-Street-Demographics.html>

The grants will primarily focus on the low-income, elderly African American residents within the neighborhood. The majority of whom rely on Medicaid or Medicare to pay for their medical expenses. Please note: Medicare does not cover dental care unless an individual is in the hospital. The State of North Carolina's Medicaid coverage does provide some level of support for dental visits.

## Results\*

Describe the proposed impact of the project. List at least 3 performance measures that will be tracked and reported. If possible, include baselines and goals for each performance measure.

The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association will use funds from Buncombe County to provide the following services:

1. Provide dental assistance via Minnie Jones Health Clinic, Western North Carolina Community Health Services' Dental Program, to low-income elderly African American residents who live within the East End Valley Street Neighborhood area.

2. To provide education about dental health via the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association's newsletter, social media, neighborhood meeting, which is approximately 2,000 individuals a month. The Community Health Advocates will provide the information to the African American churches, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Hopkins Chapel AME Zion Church, Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Nazareth First Baptist Missionary Church, St. James AME, St. Mathias, and Tried Stone Missionary Church, that are located within the neighborhood. EEVSNA will host dental education programs in collaboration with the staff of Stephens Lee Recreation Center eight times a year. The goal is to have a minimum of 15 to 20 residents attend (120 to 160 residents annually). The sessions will not occur during the winter months.

3. To provide salaries and or stipends to the Program Administrator, three Community Health Advocates and Administrative Consultant who will assist seniors with getting to the dentist and assist with paying their dental bills that are related to addressing underlying dental related conditions that may make them more vulnerable and susceptible to the coronavirus COVID-19.

Dental information will also be provided to the Stephens Lee Alumni Association and volunteers at the George Washington Carver Edible Park who provide fruits that are grown in the garden to the residents within the neighborhood.

## Evaluation\*

Describe the data collection, analysis, and quality assurance measures you will use to assure ongoing, effective tracking of contract requirements and outcomes.

The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association's leadership will use pre- & post-assessments to gather information on participants' services that are needed and rendered, & the impact of the dental services on their daily lives and health. The Community Health Advocates will track the following qualitative and quantitative data:

The number of residents who Community Health Advocates visit on a daily basis and their reported dental and health needs.

The number of completed registration forms for dental services.

The number of residents who schedule and attend their scheduled dental visits.

Pre-assessments and post-assessments from the residents who need and receive services.

At the end of each year, qualitative interviews with representatives from the dental service providers to gather information on their experience with the program and patients. We also provide quantitative surveys to some dental providers as well.

The EEVSNA Board of Directors meet on a monthly basis and will review the data each month to determine changes that are needed within the program and recommendations for modifications to how the services are being rendered.

## Equity Impact\*

How will this effort help build toward a just, equitable, and sustainable COVID-19 recovery? How are the root causes and/or disproportionate impacts of inequities addressed?

Using the definition from the County's 2021 Equity Plan, the EEVSNA will serve the following population: "BIPOC BIPOC is an acronym for 'Black, Indigenous, People of Color,' and it is meant to unite all people of color in the work for liberation while intentionally acknowledging that not all people of color face the same levels of injustice."

EEVSNA is committed to inclusivity. This particular grant will be focused on annually serving a minimum 50 low-income, elderly and African American residents of the East End Valley Street Neighborhood. This population is often not included in survey requests and survey data. While the Buncombe County Commissioners have openly stated and adopted recent policies and documents that indicate their commitment to the BIPOC community, there is a lack of recognition of the specific needs of low-income, elderly and African American residents with Buncombe County. The 2018-2022 Buncombe County Aging Plan does not specifically mention the needs of African American elderly residents nor did they have a significant number of African Americans involved in the development of the plan.

\*Buncombe County 2018-22 Aging Plan

EEVSNA recognizes that the dental needs of the low-income, elderly, & African American residents within the EEVSNA area are undocumented in community plans; however, they are real needs expressed by the residents themselves. A critical component of EEVSNA's request is that none of the Buncombe County's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Funding Categories specifically mention seniors, elderly or retirees who are aging in place. It does speak to support for nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, group living facilities & hospitals. We make this request to support the elderly who are able to live on their own at home & who often go unnoticed & unsupported. We are their advocates.

\*<https://www.buncombecounty.org/common/community-investment/grants/covid-recovery-funding/recovery-funding-categories.pdf>

## Project Partners\*

Identify any subcontractors you intend to use for the proposed scope of work. For each subcontractor listed, indicate:

- 1.) What products and/or services are to be supplied by that subcontractor and;
- 2.) What percentage of the overall scope of work that subcontractor will perform.

Also, list non-funded key partners critical to project.

Each year, the Dental Assistance Program will use subcontractors to accomplish the following:

### Dental Services:

EEVSNA is primarily partnering with the Western North Carolina Community Health Services, to complete the dental services that are offered to the elderly residents of the neighborhood (65%). The center will offer the following services:

Comprehensive diagnostic evaluation

Treatment planning

Restoration procedures

Surgical procedures

Rehabilitative services, e.g. periodontal treatment, crowns, root canals, and dentures.

The Program Administrator will also seek the support of for-profit dental offices (35%) to assist with this program.

### Marketing & Outreach:

The leadership will partner with WRES & the Urban News to provide publicity that will reach the residents within the neighborhood. Many of the residents listen to WRES & read the Urban News. These efforts will complete 30% of the marketing & outreach efforts. A member of the EEVSNA's leadership or the Program Administrator will do an on air interview on WRES to promote the program. The program will be rebroadcast twice a month for two months. A new program will be recorded every other month with new questions & answers.

The Program Administrator & Community Health Advocates will provide marketing & outreach to the residents within the neighborhood & community partners. They will complete 70% of the marketing & outreach.

**Non-funded Partners:**

The Stephens Lee will host neighborhood education programs & assist with providing a meal & gift for attendees. The programs will be held monthly for a total of eight sessions.

Churches located within the community - Calvary Presbyterian, Hopkins Chapel AME Zion, Mount Zion Missionary Baptist, Nazareth First Baptist Missionary, St. James AME, St. Mathias, & Tried Stone Missionary. The Program Administrator will provide information about the program to these locations to assist in providing opportunities for residents to learn about the program.

## Capacity\*

Describe the background, experience, and capabilities of your organization or department as it relates to capacity for delivering the proposed project and managing federal funds.

EEVSNA is a recently recognized 501(c)3 organization; however, the Association has been actively working with the community for over 30 years. During the initial stages of the COVID-19 regulations implementation, the leadership of the EEVSNA created a stipend based program for Community Volunteers to complete health related home visits. During their visits & calls, the Community Health Advocates repeatedly heard the need to have access to dental care. The elderly residents also indicated that they did not have dental coverage as part of their Medicaid or Medicare coverage & did not have funds to pay for new dentures, tooth removals nor routine dental cleanings.

Minnie Jones Health Clinic, WNCCHS, is a Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike that has been providing dental services in Buncombe County since 2010. In 2016, WNCCHS "Achieved Patient Centered Medical Home certification from the National Committee for Quality Assurance" (2016).

The for-profit dental offices will be certified providers.

Program Administrator, David Jones, Jr., previously served as a Dental Hygienist at WNCCHS prior to his retirement. During his tenure with the organization, he provided services to patients, completed billing requirements and assisted with the administrative responsibilities for the department.

Community Health Advocates have developed trusting relationships with the residents within the EEVSNA via their visits & calls to residents during the pandemic.

Administrative Consultant, Terry M. Bellamy, Ed.D., have assisted the EEVSNA in tracking and reporting the organization's grant results since 2017. Dr. Bellamy has been working with nonprofit organizations for over twenty years, and has experience ensuring the organizations detail their accountability within their work via grant documents. She has successfully completed the UNC at Chapel Hill's School of Government's Community and Economic Development Academies.

## Budget\*

Provide a detailed project budget including all proposed project revenues and expenditures, including explanations and methodology. For all revenue sources, list the funder and denote whether funds are confirmed or pending. For project expenses, denote all capital vs. operating costs, and reflect which specific expenses are proposed to be funded with one-time Buncombe County Recovery Funds.

Download a copy of the budget form [HERE](#). Complete the form, and upload it using the button below.

Recovery-Funds-budget-template (1).xlsx

## Special Considerations\*

Provide any other information that might assist the County in its selection.

Earlier this year, the Buncombe County Commissioners approved a Racial Equity Action Plan to “build community resilience.” The plan specially indicates the following priorities: Under “Community and Engagement to create authentic, honest, transparent communication around racial equity with goal of updating tools to better connect with today’s community demographics.” Another objective is to “Improve health and human service outcomes for most impacted communities,” with the goal of increasing trust and promote healing of BIPOC communities through public health initiatives. Additionally, the Buncombe County 2025 Strategic Plan indicates that “Equity: Systems, policies, and practices that support equity for all people and an organizational culture that embraces diversity and inclusion.” The EEVSNA’s plan proposes to assist some of Buncombe County’s most vulnerable, and at-risk population. The EEVSNA is intentionally focusing of elderly, low-income and African American residents of the community who are often neglected and overlooked.

EEVSNA’s Dental Assistance Program will provide an essential healthcare related service that often neglected by African American seniors, dental care. An important factor within the proposed program is the that the seniors will be provided regular communication regarding the dental program & updates on COVID-19. Community Health Advocates are current residents who live within the community, & this program will expand on the foundation of trust that they have already established. During their visits with the elderly residents they will be able to share that one the funding sources is Buncombe County, which will further the County’s equity goals’ impact.

The qualitative and quantitative information gathered will also be used to advocate for dental policy changes and outreach efforts at the local and state levels.

## File Attachment Summary

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### *Applicant File Uploads*

- Recovery-Funds-budget-template (1).xlsx

