

**ORANGE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT**

**Meeting Date:** May 19, 2009

**Action Agenda**

**Item No.** 4-f

**SUBJECT:** Home and Community Care Block Grant for Older Adults Funding Plan,  
FY 2009-10

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**DEPARTMENT:** County Manager

**PUBLIC HEARING:** (Y/N)

No

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

Recommended Funding Plan

**INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Gwen Harvey, Assistant County Manager,  
245-2300

Jerry Passmore, Director, Aging, 245-2000

Nancy Coston, Director, Social Services,  
245-2800

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**PURPOSE:** To approve the recommended Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) for Older Adults Funding Plan for FY2009-10.

**BACKGROUND:** The Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) was established in 1992 under NCGS 143B-181.1 (a) (11) to provide a "common funding stream" for a comprehensive and coordinated system of home and community-based services and opportunities for older adults. HCCBG services are available to persons age 60 and older, although the "average" client statewide is nearly 80 years old and the program targets individuals who are socially and economically in need.

The Block Grant is administered through the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services and the Area Agencies on Aging. It combines Federal and State funds with a local match. Providers typically use a variety of sources to offer programs such as senior centers, in-home aid services, volunteer coordination, and congregate meals. The Block Grant gives county commissioners discretion in budgeting and administering aging funds.

The State recently confirmed \$469,299 as the Orange County planning estimate for FY2009-10, an increase of \$7,855 from FY2008-09. Additional funds for congregate meals are projected to be available under the federal economic stimulus package but details have not yet been released. Amendments in the Funding Plan can be made over the course of the fiscal year as required.

A technical advisory committee of HCCBG fund recipients – Aging, Social Services, and Senior Care of Orange County, Inc. – convened by the Assistant County Manager and the Triangle J Area Agency on Aging Director has met to review program status for FY2008-09 and develop a proposed Funding Plan for FY2009-10.

A minor change in the Funding Plan for next year is to reassign the Afro-American Dementia Outreach Project from separate status to program element under Information, Outreach and Case Assistance in the Department on Aging.

The principal change in the Funding Plan involves the Department on Aging using an HCCBG allotment to assume operational responsibility for providing congregate meals at the two senior center sites. In prior years Joint Orange Chatham Community Action Agency (JOCCA) was the recipient who provided these services through a contract caterer. The transition from JOCCA to Aging has been planned and coordinated between the two agencies over the past year with advice and assistance from a Food Services Innovation Committee consisting of representatives from the Friends of Senior Centers, the Advisory Board on Aging, Budget and the County Manager's Office. The transition – which continues a contract caterer under Aging – ultimately responds to requests to modernize and localize the congregate meal experience such as enhanced meal options, better use of existing kitchen facilities, inclusion of local foodstuffs, and the potential to train Work First clients in the culinary arts.

The overall funding arrangement to allow Aging to assume responsibility for the congregate meal program is contained within its departmental budget request for FY2009-10.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The Home and Community Care Block Grant for FY2009-10 provides for a total of **\$469,299** in State funding to support a network of aging services throughout Orange County. The required match is provided through in-kind contributions within Departmental operating budgets.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):** The Manager recommends the Board approve the Home and Community Care Block Grant Funding Plan for FY2009-10 in the amount of **\$469,299** and authorize the Chair to sign the grant documents.

Home and Community Care Block Grant Funding Plan		
Programs	Block Grant Funding 08-09	Recommended Block Grant Funding 09-10
<p><b><u>Aging</u></b>  <b>Congregate Nutrition</b>            Department on Aging will operate two large Congregate Meal Sites located in Orange County's two new multipurpose senior centers in Chapel Hill and Hillsborough. A Food Service Director will oversee the nutrition program with a site manager, located at each site with responsibilities for the daily operation of nutrition programs and meals. Dept on Aging staff work with nutrition participants on a variety of needs including in home care, retirement benefits, health and nutrition ,legal and financial assistance, older worker employment and recreation/leisure programs</p>	\$109,455	\$109,455
<p><b><u>DSS</u></b>  <b>In-Home Aid Services</b>            Home and Community Block Grant enables low-income, minority individuals to defer or prevent institutionalization by providing quality services to meet basic needs. These services include the performance of essential home management and personal care tasks rendered under guidance and supervision.</p>	\$51,934	\$54,886
<p><b><u>Aging</u></b>  <b>Senior Center Operations</b>            Grant funds pay a portion of the salaries of the Facility Managers at the two multi-purpose Senior Centers operated by the Department on Aging.</p>	\$ 76,494	\$76,494
<p><b><u>Aging</u></b>  <b>Transportation (OPT)</b>            Daily Fixed transportation routes are provided for seniors to attend activities and services at two new multipurpose Senior Centers, one in Chapel Hill and the other in Hillsborough that include the daily nutrition program.</p>	\$ 73,394	\$73,394

Programs	Block Grant Funding 08-09	Recommended Block Grant Funding 09-10
<p><b><u>Aging</u></b>  <b>Information, Outreach, and Case Assistance</b>            HCCBG pays a portion of each full time staff person's salary to offer: Information and helpline; office and in-home consultations for assessment, care planning, follow-up, care coordination, and Medicare and benefits navigation. These funds enable outreach to underserved populations and community education about dementia. Information, Outreach, and Case Assistance is now guided by the NC Community Resource Connection Grant which seeks to: minimize consumer confusion in accessing resources, enhance consumer choice, support informed decision making, and increase cost effectiveness of long-term care support systems. The Dementia Outreach Program is working with local churches to provide group respite using the senior center model piloted with these funds. This model offers therapeutic care for dependent seniors for under \$4.00 per unit hour.</p>	<p>\$ 53,283</p>	<p>\$53,283</p>
<p><b><u>Aging</u></b>  <b>In-Home Services</b>            This grant is used to enable county residents with low-incomes, especially minority and under-served individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid, to receive in-home personal care services to enable them to continue living safely in their homes and postpone institutionalization. Aging utilizes In-home aides as one component of an overall care plan. Weekly hours range from 4-15 in an effort to serve as many individuals as possible with this funding.</p>	<p>\$ 79,908</p>	<p>\$ 82,860</p>
<p><b><u>Senior Care of Orange County, Inc.</u></b>  <b>Adult Day Care</b>            Provide temporary relief for unpaid caregivers of individuals who can benefit from assistance and supervision in a community facility setting.</p>	<p>\$16,976</p>	<p>\$18,927</p>
<p><b>Total</b></p>	<p>\$461,444</p>	<p>\$469,299</p>