

# FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BRIEFING  
DRAFT

MEETING DATE: December 20, 2018

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 7

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PIEDMONT HEALTH SERVICES AND SICKLE CELL AGENCY, TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT, IF AWARDED, THE HEALTHY START INITIATIVE GRANT THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
(FORSYTH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH)**

## COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:

### SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), released a notice of funding opportunity HRSA-19-049 titled, "Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health".

The purpose of this Healthy Start (HS) program is to improve health outcomes before, during, and after pregnancy, and reduce racial/ethnic differences in rates of infant death and adverse perinatal outcomes. The grants period of performance is from April 1, 2019, through March 30, 2024. Funding beyond the first year is subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The Healthy Start program started in 1991, and aims to address communities with infant mortality rates at least 1.5 times the U.S. national average and high rates of other adverse perinatal outcomes (e.g., low birthweight, preterm birth).

Services include preconception, pregnancy, and interconception home visits and phone contact for women and their children up to 18 months after delivery, as well as to the fathers/partners associated with the women and children. These case management services utilize evidence-based tools for risk assessment and screening; provide education; and coordinate and facilitate access to health services for women, children and fathers.

The Department of Public Health has received grant funding for the past 20 years in partnership with the State Division of Public Health, Women's Health Branch. For this funding cycle, the Department of Public Health will partner with Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency, a Guilford County non-profit agency, to carry out the Healthy Start program. Public Health will be responsible for clients and program activity solely for Forsyth County. Piedmont Health Services will serve as the lead agency for the grant for submission and grant administration if the funding is awarded. If awarded, the Department of Public Health would become a sub-awardee of Piedmont Health Services.

The HRSA grant request allows eligible organizations to seek funding at an award level \$892,500, for Year 1, and up to \$950,000, for each year thereafter. Public Health's grant budget for Year 1, is in the amount of \$275,459; Year 2: \$286,478; Year 3: \$295,072; Year 4: \$300,973; Year 5: \$306,992; and, funding is for 4.20 FTEs, supplies, operational costs, and required travel and training.

ATTACHMENTS:

YES

NO

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

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COUNTY MANAGER

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PIEDMONT HEALTH SERVICES AND SICKLE CELL AGENCY, TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT, IF AWARDED, THE HEALTHY START INITIATIVE GRANT THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (FORSYTH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH)**

**WHEREAS** the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) released a notice of funding opportunity HRSA-19-049 titled, "Healthy Start Initiative: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health";

**WHEREAS** the request to apply for the grant is in partnership with Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency, a non-profit agency in Guilford County; and

**WHEREAS** Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency will be the lead agency and submit the grant application on behalf of the Forsyth County Department of Public Health;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager and Clerk to the Board to execute, on behalf of Forsyth County, the necessary documents to submit an application for the Healthy Start Initiative grant, in coordination with Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency, to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners that the Chairman or County Manager and Clerk to the Board are hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of Forsyth County, necessary documents to receive grant funds, if awarded, as subgrantee of Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency, from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration to support the Healthy Start Initiative, subject to a pre-audit certificate thereon, by the Chief Financial Officer, where applicable, and approval as to form and legality by the County Attorney.

Adopted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December 2018.