

FORSYTH COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BRIEFING DRAFT

MEETING DATE: MAY 21, 2020

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2019-2020 BUDGET ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL LOW-INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIEAP) ONE-TIME SUPPLEMENT FUNDING ALLOCATION (FORSYTH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES)

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is dedicated to assisting citizens in need and are exploring ways to maximize the Energy program funds. In this continued effort to help households across the state, the LIEAP will be issuing a one-time supplement payment for all households that were approved for LIEAP benefits during the 2019-2020 application period. The one-time supplements are a result of excess LIEAP funds that were not utilized during the LIEAP season. Supplements will be paid directly to the household's primary heating vendor. The supplement amounts will be based on household size and approved LIEAP benefit amounts. This is in accordance with the County Directors of Social Services letter dated April 23, 2020.

Forsyth County approved and processed approximately 4,500 LIEAP applications from December 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020. The approximate amount of supplement per household will be between \$10 and \$17 as follows:

LIEAP Payment Amount:	Supplement Amount
\$300.00	\$10.00
\$400.00	\$14.00
\$500.00	\$17.00

Based on this information, Forsyth County will receive an additional \$76,000 in funding allocations to support this one-time supplement. An NC FAST report with the one-time supplements to be issued will be scheduled on May 11, 2020. It is the expectation that all payments are processed on or before May 29, 2020.

There is no County money involved.

The purpose of this agenda item is to appropriate the LIEAP Service funds to match the State funding level.

ATTACHMENTS: yes no

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
COUNTY MANAGER

**FORSYTH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
AMENDMENT TO
2019-2020 BUDGET ORDINANCE**

FROM: BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

MEETING DATE: May 21, 2020

EXPLANATION:

This Budget Ordinance Amendment appropriates additional Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) One-time Supplement Funds to the Forsyth County Department of Social Services to match the State funding level.

For Fiscal Year 2019-2020, Forsyth County's estimated LIEAP One-time Supplement payment to be allocated by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services is \$76,000. This allocation increases the FY 2019-2020 total allocation to \$ 1,682,882. These funds provide a one-time supplement vendor payment to help eligible families approved for LIEAP payments during this fiscal year with additional assistance to pay their heating expenses. These funds are 100% Federal dollars with no County money involved. The Supplement payment is expected to be scheduled on May 11, 2020, and must be paid to the vendor on or before May 29, 2020.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT THE
FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 BUDGET ORDINANCE IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

INCREASE:	<u>SECTION 1. REVENUE</u>	
	GENERAL FUND	
	INTERGOVERNMENTAL	<u>\$76,000</u>

INCREASE:	<u>SECTION 2. APPROPRIATIONS.</u>	
	GENERAL FUND	
	SOCIAL SERVICES	<u>\$76,000</u>

NATURE OF TRANSACTION:
 Additional Revenue Available
 Transfer within Accounts of
Same fund
 Other:

APPROVED BY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS AND ENTERED ON
MINUTES DATED _____
AGENDA ITEM NUMBER _____



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for
Human Services

April 23, 2020

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Energy Administrators, Managers & Supervisors

Subject: Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) One-time Supplement

Priority: Information & Action

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is dedicated to assisting citizens in need and are exploring ways to maximize the Energy program funds. In this continued effort to help households across the state, the LIEAP program will be issuing a one-time supplement payment for all households that were approved for LIEAP benefits during the 2019-2020 application period. The one-time supplements are a result of excess LIEAP funds that were not utilized during the LIEAP season. Supplements will be paid directly to the household's primary heating vendor. The supplement amounts will be based on household size and approved LIEAP benefit amounts.

To ensure households receive their supplement payments, all LIEAP applications must be keyed and processed by April 30, 2020. A listserv was sent on April 1, 2020 regarding the keying deadline for LIEAP applications. The one-time supplements are scheduled to be issued by NC FAST on the night of May 11, 2020. A notice will be mailed to households informing them of the supplement payments. A report listing all households being issued the one-time supplement and the amount of the supplement can be found on a new report in FAST Help titled **NFOMD023P – Energy One Time Supplement Report**. This report will display the payment request reference numbers for payment request that were created for NC FAST. The payment request will need to be printed and given to the county finance office for payment processing, following the regular request for payment process procedures. Job aid-Energy-Payment Requests and Check Recording Process is available in Fast Help to assist with this process. **All payments must be processed on or before May 29, 2020 or payments will be deducted from 2020-2021 calendar year benefit amount.**

If you have any questions, please contact Operational Support Team (OST) at DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov

Sincerely,

David Locklear, Deputy Director

DL/js

EFS-FNSEP-08-2020

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
MAILING ADDRESS: 2420 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2420
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265

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