

**Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2024**

**MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Budget/Public Policy Session in Conference Center Room 267 on the 2nd floor of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center located at 600 East Fourth Street, Charlotte, North Carolina, at 2:32 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chair George Dunlap, Vice-Chair Mark Jerrell
and Commissioners Leigh Altman, Patricia “Pat” Cotham,
Arthur Griffin, Vilma D. Leake, Laura J Meier, Elaine Powell,
and Susan Rodriguez-McDowell
County Manager Dena R. Diorio
County Attorney Tyrone C. Wade
Clerk to the Board Kristine M. Smith
Deputy Clerk to the Board Arlissa Eason

Absent: None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dunlap, followed by introductions and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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24-0284 CENTRAL PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE FY2025 BUDGET REQUEST

The Board received a request for FY2025 funding from Central Piedmont Community College.

Background: As part of the annual budget process, Central Piedmont submits a funding request to the County for consideration. Representatives from the college will present the FY2025 funding request to the Board of County Commissioners.





Workforce Partnerships

- Utility Line Worker Program – Duke Energy and Pike
- Apprenticeship Program with Coca-Cola Consolidated – 2nd Year
- Customized Training Agreements with Siemens and Boingo Graphics
- Workplace Learning Partnerships with 272 Mecklenburg Employers
- Registered Apprenticeship Programs with 22 Local Employers



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Education Partnerships

- Opened New CMS Early College High School
- Four CMS Middle College High Schools
- New Guaranteed Admission Program with Lees McRae College
- Renewed and Expanded Transfer Pathway with UNC Charlotte



Other Community Partnerships

- Mecklenburg County Public Health – Give Kids a Smile Day
- NC Dental Society/Charlotte Area Dental Society – Free Dental Clinic
- STRIVE Program with Mecklenburg County Pre-K
- Atrium Health Women’s Health Mobile Clinic
- Small Business Center – “Business LaunchPad” with Mecklenburg County Office of Economic Development
- “Ghost Gun” Training Program for Local Law Enforcement

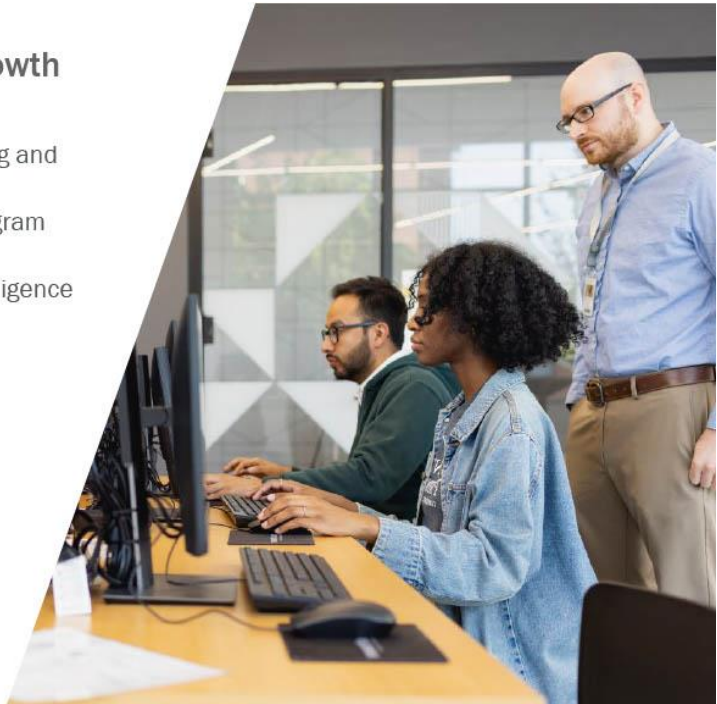


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Academic Programming Growth

- Expanded Associate Degree in Nursing and Practical Nursing Programs
- New Public Safety Administration Program
- New Social Work Program
- New Degree Program in Artificial Intelligence to Open in August
- Launched a New Honors Program



**60 YEARS OF
SERVING OUR
COMMUNITY**

1963-2023



CENTRAL PIEDMONT
COMMUNITY COLLEGE





 **Budget Priorities FY 2025**

Objective
Strategic Stewardship of
Financial and Facility Resources

- Sustaining operations while keeping pace with inflation
- Continued strategic investments in security and safety measures
- Maintaining a clean and organized learning environment
- Continuing the maintenance of our facilities and infrastructure to ensure the longevity of the County's investments

Objective
Talent Development

- Recruit and Retain Talent in a highly competitive market
- Funding mandatory raise & increases in health and retirement benefits

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County Operating Budget

SUMMARY

OPERATING BUDGET	FY2024	FY2025	Variance
	Adopted Budget	Requested Budget	
Capital Purchases	\$70,000	\$0	\$(70,000)
Facilities Maintenance	31,962,660	33,827,327	1,864,667
Facility Support Cost	3,466,614	3,454,473	(12,141)
Wage & Benefit Allocation	9,746,667	10,039,067	292,400
TOTAL FUNDING	\$45,245,941	\$47,320,867	\$2,074,926

**INCREASE:
4.59%**

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County Operating Budget

DETAIL

OPERATING BUDGET		FY2024	FY2025	Variance
		Adopted Budget	Requested Budget	
Capital Purchases				
1	Maintenance vehicles	\$70,000	\$0	\$(70,000)
2	Maintenance equipment	0	0	0
Facilities Maintenance and Security				
3	Salaries & benefits	8,124,944	8,368,692	243,748
4	Cost of utilities	5,828,817	6,150,149	321,332
5	Cost of supplies and materials	25,948	25,948	0
6	Cost of operation of motor vehicles	15,358	15,358	0
7	Cost of maintenance and repairs of buildings, grounds, security infrastructure	13,191,574	14,236,686	1,045,112
8	Maintenance and replacement of furniture and equipment	308,472	324,459	15,987
9	Maintenance of plant heating, electrical, and plumbing equipment	3,955,917	4,154,280	198,363
10	Rental of land and buildings	511,630	551,755	40,125
Facility Support Services				
11	Insurance for buildings, contents, motor vehicles, workers' compensation, etc.	2,991,614	2,944,473	(47,141)
12	Legal fees	475,000	510,000	35,000
Funding Pursuant to NC 115D-32 (Local Financial Support of Institutions)		\$35,499,274	\$37,281,800	\$1,782,526
13	Wage & benefit allocation	9,746,667	10,039,067	292,400
TOTAL FUNDING		\$45,245,941	\$47,320,867	\$2,074,926

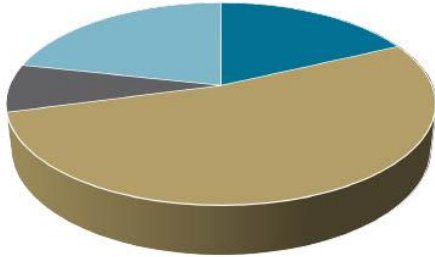
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County Operating Budget

PROJECTED



FY2024

\$8,124,944 (18%)
 \$23,907,716 (52%)
 \$3,466,614 (8%)
 \$9,746,667 (22%)
\$ 45,245,941



FY2025

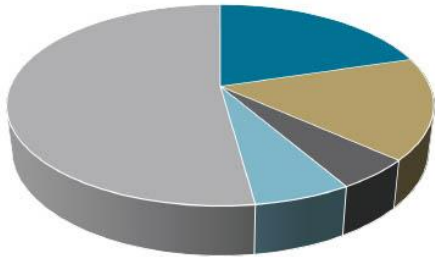
\$8,368,692 (18%)
 \$25,458,635 (54%)
 \$3,454,473 (7%)
 \$10,039,067 (21%)
\$47,320,867

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Central Piedmont Operating Budget

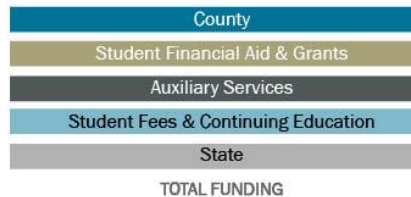
BY SOURCE



FY2024

\$45,245,941 (20%)
 \$36,750,836 (17%)
 \$11,705,135 (5%)
 \$13,373,602 (6%)
 \$116,112,111 (52%)
\$223,187,625

Institutional Funds



FY2025

\$47,320,867 (20%)
 \$38,610,764 (16%)
 \$11,746,120 (5%)
 \$14,733,113 (6%)
 \$124,100,286 (53%)
\$236,511,150

Institutional Funds

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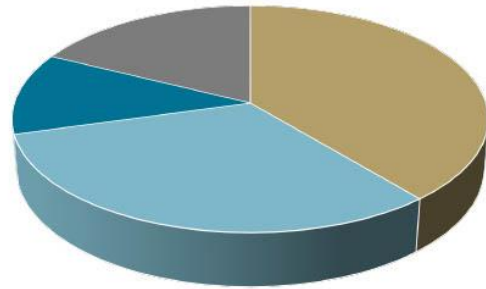
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Capital Maintenance Projects

COMPLETED OR IN PROCESS FISCAL 2017-2024

\$3,408,280 (12%)	Safety Code Improvements
\$11,318,451 (39%)	Energy Efficiency Projects
\$5,131,263 (18%)	Roof Repair and Replacement
\$9,199,757 (31%)	Infrastructure and Facility Upfits



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Capital Maintenance Projects – FY 2025

ESTIMATES

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS	ESTIMATED COST
1 Deck 1 Repairs	\$275,000
2 Deck 2 Repairs	400,000
3 Transportation System Cooling Tower Upfit	300,000
4 Drumm Cooling Tower Upfit	150,000
5 Culinary Boiler Replacement	350,000
6 Emergency Operations Center (2 nd Floor of Harris II) and Balcony Repairs	300,000
7 Cato Campus – Interior Improvements to Support Student Engagement	600,000
8 Merancas Campus – Interior Improvements to Support Student Engagement	600,000
9 Harper Asphalt Repairs	450,000
10 Central Campus – Interior Improvements to Support Student Engagement	1,200,000
11 Cato Campus – Exterior Improvements to Support Student Engagement	1,200,000
12 Merancas Campus – Exterior Improvements to Support Student Engagement	900,000
13 Central Campus – Exterior Improvements to Clarify Campus Zones and Support Increased Student Engagement	1,000,000
14 Fire Sprinkler Installation Project	600,000
15 Belk Building Roof Replacement (Health Careers)	700,000
16 City View Asphalt Repairs	200,000
TOTAL PROJECTS	\$9,225,000

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Thank You!



Capital Maintenance Project Descriptions

Deck 1 Repairs - Perform structural repairs and routine maintenance modification to 14-year-old student and staff parking deck.

Deck 2 Repairs - Perform structural repairs, stairwell enclosure and routine maintenance modification to 17-year-old student and staff parking deck.

Transportation System Cooling Tower Upfit - The 18-year-old cooling towers in the Transportation Building serve the cooling system for multiple buildings on the Merancas Campus and are part of the original construction. They are at risk of facing more consistent repairs that could lead to disrupting the learning environment. Additionally, new cooling towers would be more efficient, reducing water and electricity consumption.

Drumm Cooling Tower Upfit - The 20-year-old cooling tower serves the cooling system for the Drumm Facilities Services Building and is part of the original construction. It is approaching the end of its useful life. Additionally, a new cooling tower would be more efficient, reducing water and electricity consumption.

Culinary Boiler Replacement - The Culinary building's boilers are over 15 years old, approaching the end of their useful life. New boilers would reduce gas consumption and improve the reliability of the campus's heating system, reducing the risk of heating failures that may disrupt the learning environment.

Emergency Operations Center (2nd Floor of Harris II) and Balcony Repairs - Replace the floor finish on the north side balcony of Harris II. Upfit an existing classroom on the second floor of Harris II to be to a secondary Emergency Operations Center.

Cato Campus: Interior Improvements to Support Student Engagement - Minor renovations to improve student engagement and enhance the campus atmosphere. Enlarge lounges and lobbies by combining with adjacent spaces. This will differentiate the space and create additional spaces for study groups and student collaboration.

Merancas Campus: Interior Improvements to Support Student Engagement - Minor renovations to improve student engagement and enhance the campus atmosphere. Enlarge lounges and lobbies by combining with adjacent spaces. This will differentiate the space and create additional spaces for study groups and student collaboration.

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Capital Maintenance Project Descriptions

Harper Campus: Asphalt Repairs - Perform asphalt repair/replacement to 25-year-old parking area. Project to include curb, gutter replacement, seal coating and restriping.

Central Campus: Interior Improvements to Support Student Engagement - Minor renovations and enhancements to lounges in multiple buildings across Central Campus to improve student engagement and enhance the campus atmosphere. This will differentiate the space and create additional spaces for study groups and student collaboration.

Cato Campus: Exterior Improvements to Support Increased Student Engagement - Improve the existing amphitheater by adding a permanent shade structure. Adding a new drop-off area as well as creating additional outdoor seating will enhance the campus atmosphere and increase student engagement.

Merancas Campus: Exterior Improvements to Improve Building Access and Support Increased Student Engagement - Add a permanent shade structure and create additional outdoor seating. This will create an environment that will enhance the campus atmosphere and increase student engagement. Create an additional row of parking in the east parking lot to accommodate students and faculty during peak times.

Central Campus: Exterior Improvements to Clarify Campus Zones and Support Increased Student Engagement - Enhancing the quad by adding permanent shade structures. Creating additional outdoor seating will enhance the campus atmosphere and increase student engagement.

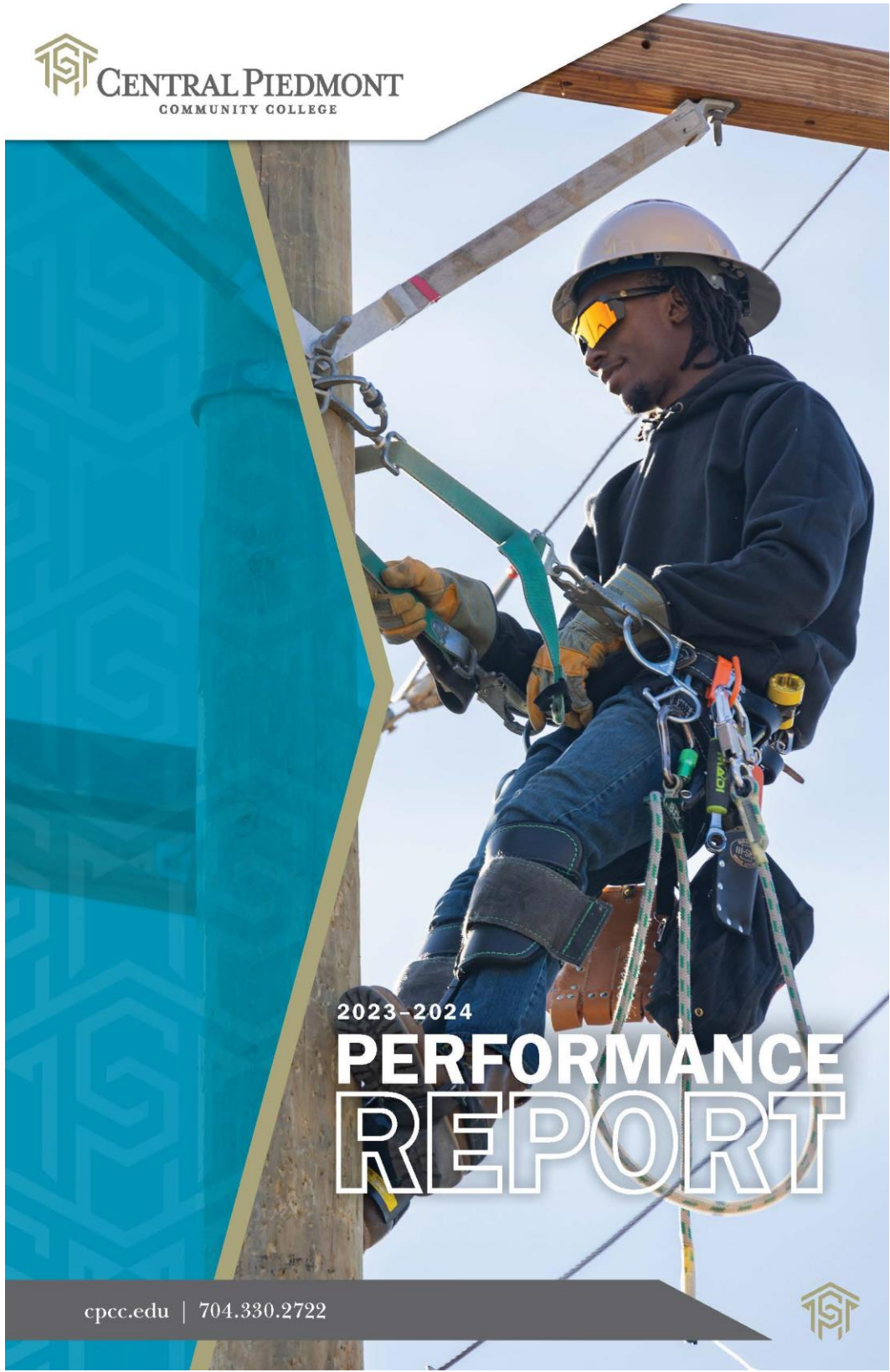
Fire Sprinkler Installation Project - Install new fire sprinkler system in existing Belk Center for Justice building that was built without a fire suppression system in 1996. This is a highly recommended request from CMFD and the college's insurance carriers.

Belk Building: Roof Replacement (Health Careers) - Replace existing 13,140 sq ft roof that was last renovated in 1999.

City View Center: Asphalt Repairs - Perform asphalt repair /replacement to 28-year-old parking area. Project to include curb, gutter replacement, seal coating and restriping.

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2023-2024

PERFORMANCE REPORT

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings once again from Central Piedmont Community College, Mecklenburg County's primary workforce development partner and provider of career pathways!

If this 2023–24 Performance Report had a theme, it would be *partnerships*. Throughout these pages you will find descriptions of new and long-running partnerships Central Piedmont has established throughout Mecklenburg County.

The college continues to work closely with our education partners, including Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and UNC-Charlotte. As

always, Central Piedmont continues to partner with local companies and other employers to provide worker training. With more than 20 healthcare career programs, the college has expanded its partnerships with Mecklenburg's largest healthcare providers. Central Piedmont also has looked to strengthen and grow its collaborative endeavors with multiple departments and services of Mecklenburg County.

At the same time, the college has expanded its programs of study to offer students more opportunities to establish vibrant careers and meet the ever-changing needs of Mecklenburg County employers. For students who want to transfer from Central Piedmont to pursue a bachelor's degree, the college continues to establish direct-transfer pathways with four-year institutions in North Carolina.

As we do each year, the college also uses this report as an opportunity to say, "thank you." We thank the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners and the County Manager and her team for their abiding support and collaboration. You enable Central Piedmont to serve the residents, business and industries of Mecklenburg County.

For more than 60 years now, Central Piedmont has been a sound investment and one of Mecklenburg's bedrock institutions that bolsters our economy, provides opportunities, and enhances our quality of life. Thank you once again. It's a privilege to serve our community.

Sincerely,

Kandi W. Deitemeyer, Ed.D.
President

MECKLENBURG COUNTY COMMUNITY VISION

Learn

Residents in Mecklenburg County will have access to a high-quality education at any point in their life and be prepared to meet the needs of employers. We will be a model learning community, committed to maximizing academic achievement for every student regardless of socio-economic standing. The county will continue to be a regional hub for higher education, offering individuals opportunities to attain degrees and further their professional development.

Work

Residents in Mecklenburg County will have continuing employment opportunities in a diverse economy that provide all who are capable and willing to work a living wage. All residents will have the opportunity to share equitably in the community's prosperity. We will be innovative and have a vibrant economy as we attract new businesses and support existing businesses.

CENTRAL PIEDMONT'S VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

Vision

Central Piedmont will be a champion of students, a catalyst for opportunity, and an exceptional provider of learning experiences that transform lives and strengthen our community.

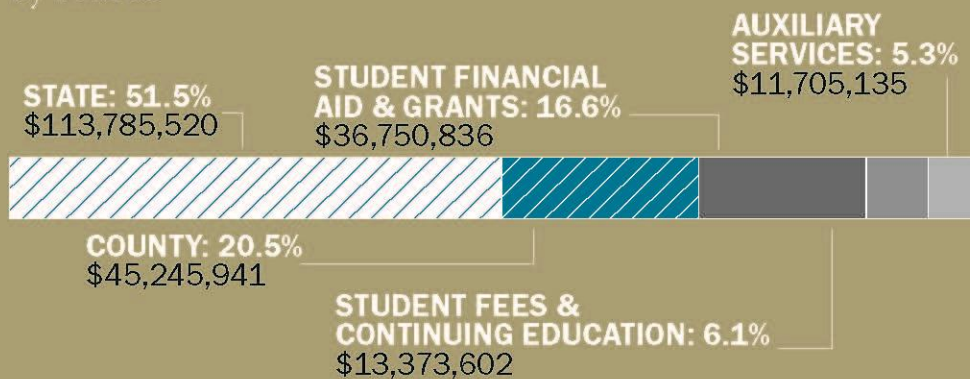
Mission

To facilitate student learning, success and completion, Central Piedmont provides exceptional education and globally competitive training in an engaging, supportive environment.

Values

- Student-Centered
- Collaboration
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Equity
- Courage

PROJECTED FY 2024 OPERATING BUDGET by source



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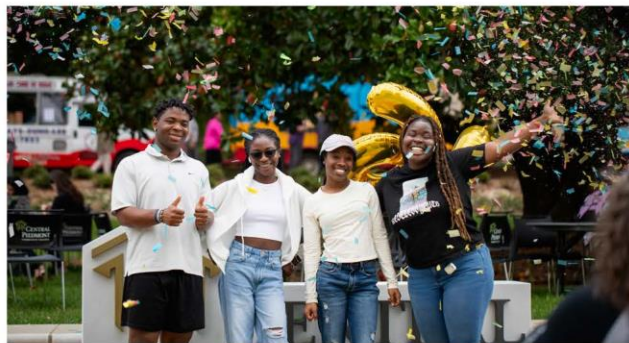
CENTRAL PIEDMONT MARKS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Central Piedmont Community College has provided educational opportunities since 1963, the year the North Carolina General Assembly passed the historic state community college bill. Opening as a fully integrated institution, the college combined the programs of the Central Industrial Education Center on Elizabeth Avenue and Mecklenburg College on Beatties Ford Road. On Sept.18, the college marked 60 years since it first opened its doors to students and began its work of service to the community.

Today with six campuses and two centers, Central Piedmont offers nearly 300 degree, diploma and certificate programs plus an array of non-credit offerings. Central Piedmont enrolls approximately 43,600 students annually in for-credit programs as well as continuing education and basic skills courses, making it one of the largest colleges in the Carolinas. Through the years, more than 100,000 individuals have earned credentials at Central Piedmont.

Central Piedmont became a multi-campus community college in the early 1990s, with the conversion of the North Area Learning Center in Huntersville to the North Campus, which then became the Merancas Campus in 2011. Four other campuses subsequently opened – Levine (Matthews) in 1998, Harper in 1999, Harris in 2001, and Cato in 2002.

In 2013, Mecklenburg County voters showed its support for Central Piedmont in dramatic fashion, approving \$210 million in bonds for land purchases, new construction and renovations. The college used the \$210 million, plus \$70 million in other county funding, to add almost one-million square feet of new laboratory, classroom, and office space across five of its six campuses.



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CENTRAL PIEDMONT EXPANDS NURSING PROGRAMS TO SERVE MORE STUDENTS

Central Piedmont Community College will expand its nursing programs to accommodate more students and help meet the need for more registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region.

Central Piedmont will expand its Associate Degree in Nursing Program from 200 to 300 students beginning May 2024. In turn, Central Piedmont will more than double the size of its Practical Nursing Program from 24 to 64 students. The Dickson Practical Nursing Program will add a second start date, giving students the option of beginning the program in either January or August.

By expanding its nursing programs, Central Piedmont will offer two new options for students – an accelerated associate degree in nursing track and an LPN-to-associate-degree in nursing bridge program.

The accelerated associate degree in nursing program will give motivated students who can attend school full-time (up to 37 hours per week) the opportunity to complete their studies in 14–15 months. In addition to the rigorous class schedule, students will need to study outside of class 10–15 hours per week. The program will open with its first class in May 2024.

The LPN-to-ADN bridge option is designed to give licensed practical nurses a path to earn their associate degree in nursing and become registered nurses. The program will span three semesters and take one year to complete. The program, which will include on-campus and online classes, will open May 2025.

See the Central Piedmont website for information about the more than 20 healthcare programs offered by the college.



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Mandy Watson is a notable May 2023 graduate of the Baking and Pastry Arts program at Central Piedmont. Her passion and determination drove her to gain acceptance into Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, obtain an internship with Executive Pastry Chef April Franqueza of High Hampton Resort, in Cashiers, N.C., and graduate from Central Piedmont with honors.

Mandy's decision to attend Central Piedmont wasn't solely about academics; it was about turning a passion into a career. "I chose Central Piedmont because of its exceptional culinary arts program with American Culinary Federation Certification and affordability," Mandy shares.

Scholarships helped Mandy pursue excellence. The NC Education Lottery Scholarship and the NC Community College Grant program played a crucial role in easing her financial burden. As

an adult student with an existing small business and family responsibilities, these scholarships enabled Mandy to focus on her studies and work study experiences without the added stress of financial constraints.

Mandy's advice for future Central Piedmont students: "Utilize your instructors. Ask questions, and keep an open mind when they critique your creations and ideas. Instructors are there to help you be the best you can be."

Mandy opened Wicked Provisions Bakehouse, a new European-style bakery in Hickory, NC. "Food should be an experience. I want to bring moments of joy to my customers and allow them to discover flavors they haven't experienced before," Mandy adds.



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HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS DEFINE STUDENT SUCCESS

The middle college high schools based at four Central Piedmont campuses continue to perform well and gain attention locally and from across the state. For the 2023–2024 school year, the CMS Early College at Central Campus and the Middle College High Schools at the Cato, Levine, Harper, and Merancas campuses have a total enrollment of 850 students in grades 9 through 13. These students will earn more than 20,000 tuition-free college credits during the 2023–2024 academic year.

In addition, Central Piedmont offers 44 career and technical pathways and eight transfer tracks as a part of the N.C. Career & College Promise Dual Enrollment program for high school juniors and seniors. In all, 6,445 high school students have participated in the program in the 2023–2024 academic year. These students have earned 38,928 tuition-free college credits thus far during the academic year.

Thanks to Central Piedmont’s high school programs, students enrolled in transfer courses can save as much as two years in tuition costs when pursuing a bachelor’s degree at a North Carolina public university and at many private institutions.

EARLY COLLEGE OPENS

The new CMS Early College High School at Central Campus welcome its first students on Aug. 7. The Central Campus Early College opened with about 200 students in grades 9, 10 and 11. CMS will add a 12th-grade class for the 2024–25 school year. The early college classrooms and offices are located on the second floor of the Worrell Building, in the heart of the college’s Central Campus. Early college students take high school and college courses and have the opportunity to earn both a high school diploma and an associate degree.

Students in the early college can earn industry certificates at no cost and have access to Central Piedmont career placement and career exploration resources, beginning in the 9th grade. Students also can participate in internships and/or apprenticeships with companies located near the Central Campus. At the same time, students will be able to participate in extracurricular activities at the college and in their home schools. The early college will be home to a maximum of 500 students when its 12th grade is added. a bachelor’s degree at a North Carolina public university and at many private institutions.



CENTRAL PIEDMONT, UNC CHARLOTTE RENEW TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP

Central Piedmont and UNC Charlotte – the Charlotte region’s two largest higher-ed institutions – have strengthened their five-year commitment to growing the workforce in Charlotte-Mecklenburg through an updated partnership agreement.

The agreement, signed in March by the leaders of the two institutions, builds on 49erNext, the successful co-admission program first launched in 2019, and formally recognizes an added pathway for Central Piedmont students to pursue a bachelor’s degree in the high-demand area of data science.

“Central Piedmont Community College is UNC Charlotte’s largest transfer partner by far,” said UNC Charlotte Chancellor Sharon L. Gaber. “This renewed agreement affirms our longstanding commitment to provide accessible, affordable, quality higher education to students here in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.”

“The 49erNext program has been a great success because it offers students a

direct pathway to a four-year degree as well as an avenue to greater economic mobility,” said Dr. Kandi Deitemeyer, Central Piedmont president. “The program is a tremendous benefit to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community as we seek to produce more individuals with bachelor’s degrees to meet our growing workforce demands. 49erNext also is a wonderful example of the region’s two largest institutions of higher education working together to serve students and be economic development accelerators.”

Through the updated formalized agreement, Central Piedmont students in the Associate in Applied Science programs in Information Technology/Data Analysis, Information Technology/ Full Stack Programming and Information Technology/ Software Development now have a path to pursue a bachelor’s degree in data science, the first degree of its kind in North Carolina. Central Piedmont students can transfer up to 64 credit hours toward their bachelor’s degree.



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CENTRAL PIEDMONT WORKS WITH MECKLENBURG PUBLIC HEALTH TO ‘GIVE KIDS A SMILE’

Central Piedmont and Mecklenburg County Public Health partnered to participate in “National Give Kids a Smile Day” by offering free dental services to Mecklenburg children on Feb. 24.

Between 200 and 300 children received free dental cleanings and screenings as well as vision screenings, immunizations, health education, and other family resources. Mecklenburg Public Health employees and Central Piedmont health sciences faculty, staff and students donated their time to provide the services and care.

“We were excited to serve our community, especially the children who need us the most,” said Raydiance Swanston, Mecklenburg County Public Health Pediatric Dental Clinic manager. “We will provide these vital oral health services to families who do not have health insurance.”

Also participating were Atrium Health’s

Women’s Care Drive to Thrive mobile unit, a Vision to Learn mobile unit, and a mammogram bus. All services and wellness information were provided in English and Spanish.

North Carolina data shows that 11.3 percent of kindergartners in state Region IV, including Mecklenburg County, have tooth decay. Dental disease in children can be reduced effectively through prevention initiatives for oral health. About 25 percent of children in Mecklenburg County are found to have untreated cavities in their permanent teeth, with the majority coming from low-income families.

“I am proud of our collective efforts to bring ‘Give Kids A Smile Day’ back to Mecklenburg County this year,” said Dr. Raynard Washington, Mecklenburg County Public Health director. “We are excited and thankful for the partnership with Central Piedmont, allowing our teams to help more children and families than ever before.”

CENTRAL PIEDMONT AND PARTNERS HOST FREE DENTAL CLINIC

Central Piedmont, the North Carolina Dental Society Foundation Missions of Mercy, the Charlotte area Dental Society Foundation Missions of Mercy (MOM), and other members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg dental community came together to offer a free dental clinic in April.

The joint clinic treated 85 patients who received more than \$57,700 in free dental care. Held at Central Piedmont's dental clinic teaching labs, located in the Leon Levine Health Sciences Center, on the college's Central Campus, the goal of the nine-hour clinic was to provide essential dental services, such as restorative dental care and extractions, for underserved, in-need community members. Many of the patients had been treated by Central Piedmont dental hygiene students but needed additional treatment they could not afford.

This was the first time in Charlotte and perhaps North Carolina that dental educational facilities were used to provide care to those in the community with no other care options. Clinic organizers say the event partnerships and operation could become a pattern for other communities to follow. Central Piedmont offers a one-year dental assisting program and a two-year dental hygiene program.

HEALTHCARE GRADUATES ACHIEVE HIGH RATES OF CERTIFICATION

The 2023 graduates of the following Central Piedmont allied health programs earned 100-percent pass rates on their respective national licensure/certification exams:

- Cardiovascular Technology – invasive and non-invasive
- Cytotechnology (post baccalaureate certificate)
- Dental Hygiene
- Medical Assisting
- Pharmacy Technology
- Polysomnography
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Ophthalmic Medical Personnel.

Graduates of the Nursing Associate Degree program earned a pass rate of 96 percent on the NCLEX-RN licensure exam, as first-time test takers. The Practical Nursing program graduated its second cohort of students graduate in

December. Graduates of the program achieved a 90-percent pass rate on the state licensure exam.

Graduates of the following allied health programs all earned greater than 90-percent pass rates on their respective national licensure/certification exams:

- Dental Assisting
- Medical Laboratory Technology.

All of the college's more than 20 allied health and nursing programs are nationally accredited by their respective professional accrediting agencies, signifying excellence in teaching, facilities and skills attainment. The employment rate for all of Central Piedmont healthcare graduates continues at or near 100 percent, evidence of the high demand for a well-educated and competent healthcare workforce at all levels of practice in Mecklenburg County.

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Alicja Glapiak, an international student from Poland, is on a journey at Central Piedmont Community College. “I chose Central Piedmont because of the standards it presents in the Charlotte community and of the standards of the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program,” Alicja says.

Alicja wants a career through which she can connect and motivate people: “I chose the PTA field because I want to be the spark in people’s well-being, encouraging them to nurture their minds and bodies.”

Central Piedmont provides more than classrooms and labs for Alicja. The college offers a supportive community, vital for an international student. “I was given a safe community space, which for an international student might be difficult to find, and opportunities to learn hands-on skills to grow as a healthcare professional,” Alicja explains.

“Something unique in my college journey is the inspiration I draw from my instructors. Their educational

competence, humor, and real-world experience make me impatient and excited for my future as a physical therapist assistant,” Alicja adds.

Conquering possibility for Alicja, is about embracing challenges and celebrating every step she takes toward reaching the best version of herself. She encourages other Central Piedmont students and future students to, “be mindful in your college experience, ask questions, explore new skills, and seek your purpose in your future career.”

“ I chose Central Piedmont because of the standards it presents in the Charlotte community. ”

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EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Central Piedmont's Early Childhood Education program continues its collaboration with Charlotte Bilingual and Child Care Resources Inc. The college provides entry-level childcare providers with the basic skills and knowledge necessary for assisting in providing high quality childcare in Mecklenburg County. We offer our certification courses in English and Spanish to provide language support for novice English speakers.

The program also provides coursework to students participating in the Quality Everyday Program offered by Child Care Resources through funding by Smart Start of Mecklenburg County. These students receive coursework and paired coaching in their classrooms to increase their understanding of the importance of relationships and interpersonal

interactions with young children.

In addition, the college is maintaining and growing the STRIVE Scholars program in partnership with the Mecklenburg County Pre-K initiative, the Foundation for the Carolinas, and the Central Piedmont Foundation. The STRIVE program provides full tuition, fees, books, and materials funding to academically qualified students preparing to become educators of young children in Mecklenburg County. STRIVE scholars also receive access to mental health support, professional and personal development opportunities, and are eligible to apply for need-based support with childcare and transportation. Currently there are 53 students in the STRIVE Scholars program, with 18 graduating in 2023.

COLLEGE LAUNCHES HONORS PROGRAM

Through a generous gift from Truist Bank, Central Piedmont established an Honors Program, opening with the start of the 2023 fall semester.

The Honors Program seeks to develop excellence in students by providing high quality enrichment experiences that are intellectually challenging and result in deeper learning. The Honors Program engages students in meaningful academic, personal, and social development experiences to create independent thinkers and life-long learners through the construction of knowledge. Students in the Honors Program gain transferable skills that add value to the credits or degree earned at Central Piedmont resulting in a better marketability.

Students participate in course sections aligned with the Honors Program foundations emphasizing experiential learning, research, civic engagement, global learning, leadership, and reflective thinking. The Honors Program will include a variety of transformational learning experiences for students planning to transfer, earn a degree, or enter the workplace. They are required to complete 15-credit hours in Honors Program course sections, a 30-hour immersive experience, and 10 activities or events including interview and resume sessions that emphasize the Honors Program foundations.

Students can apply for scholarships that will cover tuition and course materials as well as travel, events, and immersion experiences aligned with at least one of the program foundations. The Honors Program is open to students from all courses of study offered at the college. The college provides alternate methods for acceptance into the program outside of GPA requirements to ensure the program is equitable and inclusive.

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TRUCK DRIVER PROGRAM RECEIVES GRANT

Central Piedmont's CDL-A/Truck Driving program received a grant of \$247,200 from the North Carolina Trucking Association Foundation and the N.C. Community College System. The college is using the grant to offer more class sections in its CDL-A/Truck Driving program, purchase or lease additional equipment for the program, and provide scholarship funds for underserved student populations.

The American Trucking Associations estimates a shortage of 78,000 truck drivers nationwide. This affects the overall U.S. economy, as 68 percent of all commercial freight is moved on U.S. highways.

To address the driver shortage, North Carolina gave the North Carolina Trucking Association Foundation \$5 million in nonrecurring State Fiscal Recovery Funds. With \$2 million of the funds, the foundation collaborated with the N.C. Community College System to establish the Truck Driver Shortage Grant Program.

Central Piedmont is one of 34 community colleges in the state that offer truck driver training programs.

COLLEGE HOSTS ATRIUM HEALTH MOBILE CLINIC

Central Piedmont is hosting the Atrium Health Women's Care Drive to Thrive, a mobile care unit dedicated to providing a comprehensive range of women's health services. This initiative represents a significant step towards enhancing healthcare access and equity.

Atrium Health's Women's Care Drive to Thrive is a mobile clinic offering a variety of essential services in a friendly and supportive environment. The unit is open to all community members and offers both scheduled and walk-in appointments, with bilingual staff available for Spanish-speaking patients.

The mobile clinic includes a range of vital services, such as:

- Screening for cervical cancer, urinary tract infections, and sexually transmitted infections
- Access to birth control
- First-time prenatal visits and postpartum care
- Ultrasound services
- Mammogram referrals
- On-site social worker to help connect patients with resources

Service costs vary based on individual insurance plans. For those without insurance, a sliding scale is applied, often resulting in no charge. The clinic operates on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on the college's Central Campus.





COLLEGE ADDS PUBLIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

Central Piedmont opened a new associate-degree program in Public Safety Administration with the start of the 2023–24 academic year. The two-year program offers students multiple tracks to tailor their experience toward their desired career or current field of expertise. The pathways include security and loss prevention, emergency and fire management, law enforcement, and corrections.

The college designed the Public Safety Administration curriculum to provide students, as well as practitioners, with knowledge and skills in the technical, managerial and administrative areas necessary for entrance or advancement within various public safety and government organizations. Students completing the program can pursue in careers within fire and police departments, emergency management organizations, governmental agencies, industrial firms, correctional facilities,

private industries, insurance organizations, educational organizations, security, and protective organizations, and through self-employment opportunities.

Central Piedmont offers the program through multiple delivery methods – on-campus classes, a combination of in-person and online instruction, plus a fully online option. Most of the in-person classes take place at Central Piedmont’s Merancas Campus, in Huntersville.



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Joshua Rikard is a mechatronics engineering technology student, an active member of the Fab-Lab organization, and a first-generation college student.

Set to graduate in 2024, Joshua is an apprentice with Burkert Fluid Controls. "I chose mechatronics because I knew it would be an exciting challenge for me," Joshua explains. He has formed many lasting friendships with his peers at Central Piedmont, as well as beneficial relationships with faculty. By pushing himself and taking on tasks he normally would avoid, Joshua has grown in confidence. As a result of positive reinforcement and encouragement from his instructors, he has been able to do things outside of his comfort zone.

"My ultimate career goal is to take the mechanical and electrical knowledge that Central Piedmont is providing me and apply it to my new role after graduation. I have a very well-rounded understanding of how the manufacturing world works. Thanks to my previous experience and what I have learned at Central Piedmont, I will be an asset in any position I hold," Joshua says.

Joshua's advice for future Central Piedmont students: "Learn how to take constructive criticism well, both positive and negative."



NEW SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM OPENS

Central Piedmont launched an associate-degree program in Human Services Technology with a social work concentration starting in August. Program graduates will be prepared for positions such as case manager, social worker, community outreach worker, and others.

The two-year Human Services Technology/Social Services concentration program prepare students for direct-service delivery work in social service agencies. The program curriculum enables students to link theory and practice through interactive classroom activities while developing a skill-based academic foundation.

Coursework includes the history of the social service movement, ethical issues, case management, diversity issues, law in social work practice, interviewing and counseling, and community resources. The college is working to establish transfer agreements with local universities so students will have a path to continue their studies beyond their associate degree.

COLLEGE PROVIDES CUSTOMIZED CORPORATE TRAINING

Central Piedmont is providing customized training for employees of two more Mecklenburg County companies – Siemens Energy and Boingo Graphics – through funding from North Carolina’s customized training program.

The N.C. Community College System’s Customized Training Program offers training services and specialized programs to assist new and existing business and industry to remain productive and profitable in North Carolina.

Siemens Energy is receiving approximately \$131,800 in training value from Central Piedmont. The college will support the company with its onboarding of new employees, including orientation, metrics and metrology, safety, customer

and business focus, computer training, and continuous improvement.

Boingo Graphics will receive approximately \$22,00 in training value. The college will provide leadership and customer service training.

Central Piedmont’s Corporate Learning Center is the college’s single point of contact for serving the wide range of learning and development needs of businesses and organizations in Mecklenburg County, including customized training. The college’s span of learning, expertise and experience make Central Piedmont a uniquely positioned workforce development resource to help local companies meet their performance and growth goals.

CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT SUPPORTS LOCAL EMPLOYERS

To further strengthen Mecklenburg County’s workforce, Central Piedmont’s Corporate Engagement partnered with more than 30 local companies in 2022-23. These included Akoustis Technologies, Legion Brewing, Hendrick Automotive, Charlotte Water, Groninger, Siemens Energy, and Novant Health. These partnerships provided competency-based instruction and customized training to employees in a number of topics such as Notary Public, welding, information technology, continuous improvement, and interpersonal/leadership.

To build employer talent pipelines and offer opportunities for students, Central Piedmont’s Workplace Learning department in 2022-23 registered 694 students in experiential learning (Work-based Learning/Co-op) with 272 employer partners through 55 different programs of study. The college also supported 22 employers with registered apprenticeship programs by providing the related instruction for 136 apprentices.

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FIRST CLASS IN UTILITY LINE WORKER PROGRAM GRADUATES

Central Piedmont graduated and celebrated the first class in its new utility line worker program at a Dec. 15 ceremony, held at the Harper Campus, in Charlotte. The graduates are helping meet a growing need in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region for well-trained, highly skilled utility line workers. The first class of utility line workers from Central Piedmont was comprised of five males and one female.

Central Piedmont announced the creation of the program in late 2022 and began conducting classes and training in late-July 2023. Duke Energy provided a start-up boost by giving the college a grant of \$500,000. The Pike Corporation also helped by providing much needed equipment to establish the program at the college's Harper Campus. The college is using the Duke Energy grant to provide instructional support and purchase equipment, materials and supplies needed to sustain the program.

The Duke Energy Foundation announced in December it was providing the college a grant of \$48,000 to further support the effort.

As Central Piedmont continues to grow the program, its goal will be to produce more than 100 graduates every 12 months. Students undertake a rigorous curriculum and achieve a 580-hour academic and field training goal. Students who complete the 16-week program will be able to enter the workforce quickly and will have earned multiple, specialized industry training credentials, including OSHA, CPR, Arc Flash Safety for Utilities, Bucket Truck Rescue, Class A CDL License, Pole Top Rescue, and Work Zone Flagger.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates about 23,000 openings for line installers and repairers will be available each year, on average, over the next decade. With this trend in mind, the college, Duke Energy and Pike have partnered to develop a pipeline of diverse, skilled, and talented utility line workers by investing in the education and career development of local, Mecklenburg County citizens.



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Marsha Gay is the personification of lifelong learning and perseverance. At the age of 51, Marsha earned her massage therapist certification at Central Piedmont. Now, despite the challenges that come with being an adult learner, Marsha is working toward an associate degree in occupational therapy.

“As a wife, mother and grandmother, I aspire to leave a legacy that emphasizes the truth that it is never too late to pursue one’s personal dreams,” Marsha explains. “Caring for numerous individuals has brought me immense joy, and now the time has come for me to focus on my own journey of reinvention.”

Marsha is a Student Ambassador, sharing her passion for education and inspiring others. She also is a proud member of “SALUTE,” a military honors society, recognizing her outstanding service to her country.

Marsha has received multiple scholarships, each serving as a testament to her commitment to academic excellence. She is a recipient of the Bank of America Bridge to Careers Scholarship, the Victoria Bowler Memorial Scholarship, the Governors’ Emergency Education Relief (GEER) scholarship, and a Student Ambassador scholarship.

She chose Central Piedmont Community College due to its affordability, multiple campuses, and abundant opportunities for engagement and involvement. One aspect Marsha has particularly cherished about her college experience is the opportunity to connect with a diverse array of individuals.

Marsha’s advice to other Central Piedmont students: “Get involved, and take advantage of all of the incredible things that Central Piedmont has to offer.”



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CENTRAL PIEDMONT AND LEES-MCRAE COLLEGE ESTABLISH ‘GUARANTEED ADMISSION PROGRAM’

Leaders of Central Piedmont Community College and Lees-McRae College signed an agreement in April to establish a Guaranteed Admission Program, providing Central Piedmont students a new transfer pathway to a bachelor’s degree.

The Lees-McRae Guaranteed Admission Program (GAP) will automatically admit Central Piedmont students who have earned an Associate of Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science or Associate in Fine Arts degree and meet specific grade-point-average requirements. Students in the program also will be eligible to receive merit scholarships up to 50 percent of Lees-McRae’s annual tuition.

Dr. Lee King, Lees-McRae College president; Dr. Kandi Deitemeyer, president of Central Piedmont; and other

leaders from both institutions signed the agreement during a morning ceremony at Central Piedmont’s Central Campus, in Charlotte. The Lees-McRae Guaranteed Admission Program with Central Piedmont will open to students in August with the start of the fall 2024 semester.

Leaders from both institutions agree that transfer pathway agreements like the Guaranteed Admission Program are important in North Carolina’s efforts to increase the number of residents with a high-quality credential or post-secondary degree. The myFutureNC initiative has set a goal of two-million more North Carolinians with a credential or degree by 2030 to support the state’s economy. Central Piedmont now has more than a dozen direct-transfer program partnerships.

COLLEGE TO LAUNCH DEGREE PROGRAM IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Central Piedmont will open a new associate-degree program in artificial intelligence (AI) in August, with the start of the 2024 fall semester. Central Piedmont is only the second North Carolina community college to offer an AI degree program.

Central Piedmont’s program will equip students with the foundational knowledge and practical skills necessary to excel in the rapidly growing field of AI. The curriculum will cover machine learning, chatbots and generative AI, chatbot programming, artificial intelligence programming, system analysis and design, and AI applications in various industries. Given the ever-changing technology landscape of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area, the degree will provide a platform from which students can embark on fulfilling careers in AI.

Central Piedmont will welcome as many as 50 students to the initial class. Students who complete the program will be qualified for entry-level positions in AI, including AI engineer, AI project manager, AI researcher, AI architect, and machine learning specialist in numerous industries, such as banking and finance, engineering, manufacturing, transportation and logistics, healthcare, and many others.

HAGEMEYER LIBRARY INCLUDED IN AMERICAN LIBRARIES' 2023 DESIGN SHOWCASE

The Hagemeyer Library, located on Central Piedmont's Central Campus, earned the distinction of being included in American Libraries' 2023 Design Showcase. The annual showcase seeks to identify and highlight the most impressive new and renovated libraries in the United States.

"The 2023 selections," according to American Libraries, "represent a return to pre-pandemic normalcy and demonstrate a firm step into the future, with physical spaces designed to draw in communities, celebrate local history, and acknowledge diverse natural environments. For these overhauls and expansions, form and functionality reign."

The 66,321 square-foot Hagemeyer Library is an anchor of the Parr Center, the hub of student life on the Central Campus. A true 21st-century library, the Hagemeyer Library offers an abundance of indoor and outdoor study and collaboration spaces for students and community members. In addition to traditional library services, the three-story Hagemeyer provides students a Makerspace, media studios, event/meeting space, family study room, access to balcony seating, as well as designated quiet rooms, classrooms, and faculty space.

The 183,000 square-foot, Parr Center opened in July 2022, and was built with Mecklenburg County bonds and other funds. The visually distinctive facility was designed by Morris Berg and Moody Nolan Architects, with construction management services provided by Rodgers and R.J. Leeper Construction. It is the largest building constructed in the 60-year history of the college.

CENTRAL PIEDMONT STUDENTS CAN APPLY FOR NEXT NC SCHOLARSHIPS UP TO \$3,000

The new "Next NC Scholarship" is a financial aid program that helps most North Carolinians from households making \$80,000 or less pursue a higher education by fully covering tuition and fees at any community college in the state. The assistance is not a loan, so students will not have to pay the money back.

The Next NC Scholarship combines the federal Pell Grant with the state-funded financial aid program to form a simplified and predictable scholarship award that is easier to understand and makes education more affordable so a greater number of North Carolina students can pursue a degree or shorter-term credential.

Qualifying students attending Central Piedmont, or any other N.C. community college, will receive at least \$3,000. That means having their tuition and fees 100-percent covered. Students also can use the scholarship award to pay for books, food and housing.

To apply for a Next NC Scholarship, students simply need to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. If students are eligible, they will receive the Next NC Scholarship, with no additional forms to fill out. The Next NC Scholarship priority filing date is Aug. 15, 2024, for N.C. community colleges.

DEITEMEYER NAMED 'BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR'

In November, Queens University of Charlotte announced Dr. Kandi Deitemeyer, president of Central Piedmont Community College, had been selected as the 2023 Charlotte BusinessWoman of the Year. In its 38th year, the award celebrates female leaders who have made significant contributions to the Charlotte region through outstanding leadership and achievement.

“Kandi is a dynamic leader, educator, businesswoman, and now the senior chief executive of Charlotte’s thriving higher education landscape,” said Queens University President Dan Lugo. “Her strategic vision and unwavering commitment to student success have transformed Central Piedmont into a driving force of economic growth for Charlotte while empowering countless students and their families to achieve greater economic mobility. It is a great

privilege and honor to recognize her with this year’s Charlotte BusinessWoman of the Year award.”

Dr. Deitemeyer, a community college graduate herself, values the transformative impact Central Piedmont has had on countless individuals and the community. She is passionate about the student experience and is unwavering in her commitment to ensuring student success.

“When I consider the women selected before me for this award, and when I reflect on the distinguished members of the selection committee, I am both honored and humbled,” said Dr. Deitemeyer. “To be chosen as the 2023 ‘Charlotte BusinessWoman of the Year’ is such a wonderful distinction. I am so pleased and appreciative to join such an auspicious group of women.”



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COLLEGE, PARTNERS PROVIDE ‘GHOST GUN’ RECOGNITION TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Central Piedmont, in partnership with the N.C. Department of Public Safety and the Charlotte Field Division of the U.S. Department of Justice-Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, provided a four-hour training session for local law enforcement officers on privately made firearms, including “ghost guns,” Oct. 25, at the Merancas Campus.

More than 20 law enforcement officers attended the training session, during which they learned about:

- identifying privately made firearms, including ghost guns,
- Glock conversion devices,
- homemade silencers,
- regional and national trends and resources,
- crime gun intelligence,
- legal issues,
- investigative techniques.

The training opportunity attracted news media attention with four local TV stations covering the event.

SMALL BUSINESS CENTER ASSISTS MECKLENBURG ENTREPRENEURS

Mecklenburg County’s small businesses create new jobs, generate economic activity and revenue, and offer a pathway to economic mobility for entrepreneurs. During 2022-23 year, Central Piedmont’s Small Business Center (SBC) was an anchor for the business community, with 176 business clients counseled. Aside from counseling and workshops, the center also offers free small and medium conference rooms and a large classroom as small business resources.

The Small Business Center continued the Equity in Contracting program, an initiative providing targeted assistance to help small businesses compete to win government contracts and emphasizing diversity to create a more equitable environment. As part of the program, underrepresented businesses are helped to become more familiar with government

contracting processes and certifications. Specialized 1-on-1 counseling is provided in guided sessions designed to assess business readiness and receive back-office assistance, including accounting, human resources, legal assistance, marketing and technology. Some 261 businesses have participated in the program, with 29 currently being served.

In addition to more than 20 free business-related workshops, for a third year, the SBC also continues to offer the “Business LaunchPad” program in partnership with Mecklenburg County’s Office of Economic Development, to enhance minority- and women-owned small business participation in government contracting opportunities. It has served 83 businesses since inception, with 16 participating currently.

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Edwin Quarles, a distinguished Air Force veteran and Town Commissioner for Huntersville, embarked on an extraordinary academic journey at Central Piedmont. As a December 2023 graduate, Edwin's decision to enroll at Central Piedmont was driven by the institution's outstanding reputation. He reflects on his choice, stating, "I chose Central Piedmont because it was said to be the best community college in the nation. I also heard from several graduates that the professors had the students' best interest at heart."

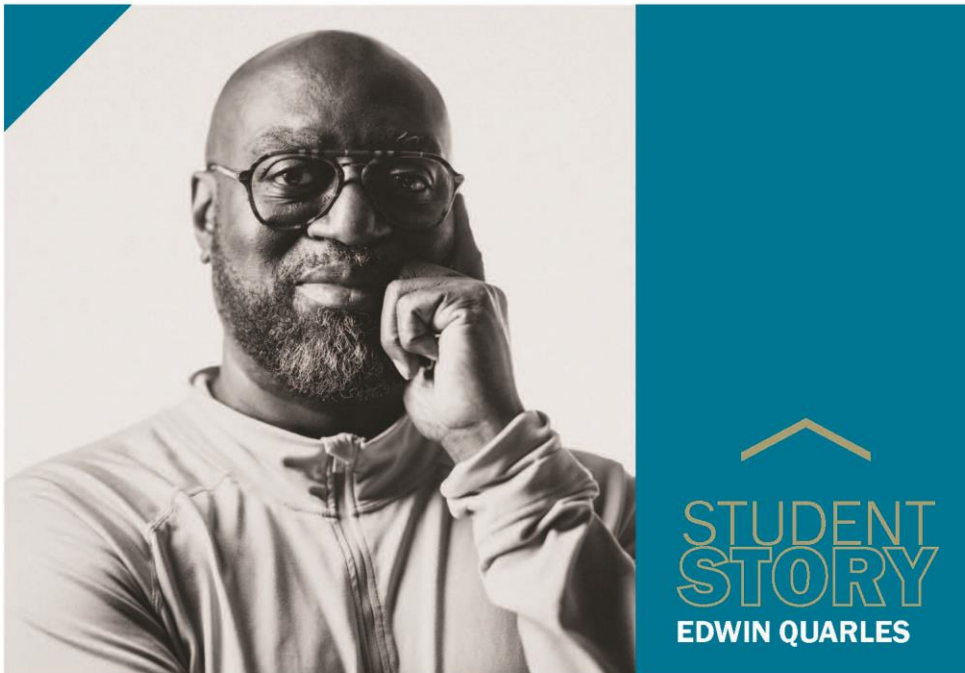
Pursuing an Associate in Arts degree, he strived to leverage his education to assist fellow veterans in accessing the benefits they rightfully deserve. Edwin's dedication to veterans is a testament to his unwavering sense of duty and service, a value deeply rooted in his military experience.

One of the hallmarks of his time at Central Piedmont was the exceptional

faculty who not only imparted knowledge but also kept him interested and inspired. "I enjoyed my professors. Each kept me engaged, which made learning at such an older age easy and fun," Edwin shares.

Edwin's aspirations extend to a career in the social service field, where he envisions himself playing a pivotal role in supporting veterans and contributing to the betterment of his community. His advice to future Central Piedmont students resonates with his own journey: "Set a goal, stay focused, apply yourself, and seek understanding and clarity from your professors. I used that formula after being away from a classroom setting for 30 years and was able to graduate from my program with honors."

Central Piedmont, for Edwin, is more than an institution, it's a source of belief and inspiration. "Central Piedmont helped me Conquer Possibility by giving me belief that I can achieve and be successful," he reflects.



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COLLEGE'S SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS REMAIN A PRIORITY

Central Piedmont continues to be a good steward of its resources and of the natural environment of its campuses. Highlights of the college's 2023 sustainability efforts include the following:

Energy

The college's energy consumption per square foot remains 30-percent less than the 2006 baseline. Individual buildings that are leading the way in energy savings from efforts over the last 4 years include:

- Drumm Facilities Services Building: 29% reduction in energy use
- Giles: 18% reduction
- Parking Deck 2: 14% reduction in energy use thanks to an LED lighting retrofit
- Cato 1 & 2 Buildings: 24% reduction
- Overcash Center: 24% reduction

Recycling

The Culinary Arts program and Harris Conference Center continue to compost food scraps from their operations. Approximately 20 tons of food waste were diverted from the landfill in 2023.

Central Piedmont recycles approximately 150 tons of paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, and metal each year. The college also recycles an average of 10 tons of electronic waste per year. Other recycled items include printer cartridges, scrap metal, batteries, light bulbs, and various automotive waste items from educational programs.



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Comments

Commissioner Griffin thanked them. Regarding slide three and Workforce Development, he asked if there was any census data concerning participation. He also asked how participants were accessing the program, whether it was partner-directed or students coming from the general population. *Dr. Deitemeyer said that depending on how the programs were marketed, workplace learning partnerships reach out to companies for opportunities, and then a placement match happens.*

Commissioner Griffin said their programs were excellent; they just needed to figure out how to be more intentional.

Commissioner Leake thanked them for the presentation. She asked, regarding women, what they were doing for young men in the process who needed education and support. *Dr. Deitemeyer said they were one of many locations partnering with Atrium for women's care. She said they had partnered with the Federal Reserve to bring the conversation down to discuss not just men but young black men. She said they had some outreach programs they were doing. She said they launched NC Reconnect for people ages 18 to 44 who came to the college with "some college" but didn't finish. She said they were also offering counseling services.*

Commissioner Cotham thanked them. She asked about maintenance repair when using subcontractors and if they had any criteria for hub participation. *Jessica Boyce, Vice President for Finance and Facilities Operations, said they had a goal of 10% but strived to exceed that. She said they looked to the state for hub participation.* Commissioner Cotham asked if they put that specific information on their website so that the public is aware. *Dr. Deitemeyer added they had added language to the contracts of their specific targets for diversity. She said they also hired a vendor diversity specialist to increase their capacity for goods and services and their capital maintenance programs.*

Commissioner Cotham asked for an update on if there were more full-time teachers. *Dr. Deitemeyer said they would always have more part-time faculty than full-time. She also said there were instances in which they didn't need full-time teachers. She added that over the last few years, they had converted a number of them from part-time to full-time.*

Commissioner Powell thanked them. She thanked Dr. Deitemeyer for listening on the day of the officer shootings on April 29. She thanked them for creating the pilot program to staff MEDIC, and she said it increased the diversity of people who responded to emergencies. She said Dr. Deitemeyer was so present as a leader, and it made a difference. She said what community colleges could do was so powerful. She said she appreciated her depth of leadership.

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Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell expressed her concern about the sheriff's office and training center and hoped to gain more insight into how it would operate. *Dr. Deitemeyer said she and the sheriff had talked multiple times. She said they were full partners with this and other local and national partners. She said this should be THE training facility of the region and the state.*

Chair Dunlap also inquired about the training facility. He said he looked forward to the update. *Dr. Deitemeyer said she saw it as a continued partnership, and other agencies should and had been asked to the table for discussion.*

24-0285 MECKLENBURG COUNTY COURT OFFICIALS FY2025 BUDGET REQUEST

The Board received a presentation from Casey Calloway, Trial Court Administrator, highlighting the FY2025 budget request from the Mecklenburg County Court Officials.

Background: As part of the development of the FY2025 Recommended Budget, the County Manager will consider a funding request from the court officials. Representatives from Mecklenburg County Courts will present the court official's budget request to the Board of County Commissioners. The court officials budget request includes funding for the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, and the Clerk of Superior Court's Office.



26TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA FY 24-25 COURT SYSTEM BUDGET PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- ⇒ Our Missions & Visions
- ⇒ Thank You for Your Support
- ⇒ Return on Investment & Achievement Highlights
- ⇒ 26th Judicial District Data and Impacts
- ⇒ State & Local Funding
- ⇒ Budget Priorities
- ⇒ Questions
- ⇒ Thank You



OUR MISSIONS

Mecklenburg County will be a community of pride and choice for people to **LIVE, LEARN, WORK, and RECREATE.**

To provide fair and accessible justice to the community is the fundamental mission of the 26th Judicial District and its justice partners in Mecklenburg County. We are committed to working collaboratively with the community to prevent and solve problems in order to enhance the quality of life for all individuals.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CURRENT AND CONTINUED SUPPORT

Assistant District
Attorneys and Public
Defenders supplemental
salaries

NORTH CAROLINA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
of the Courts

Contract Positions

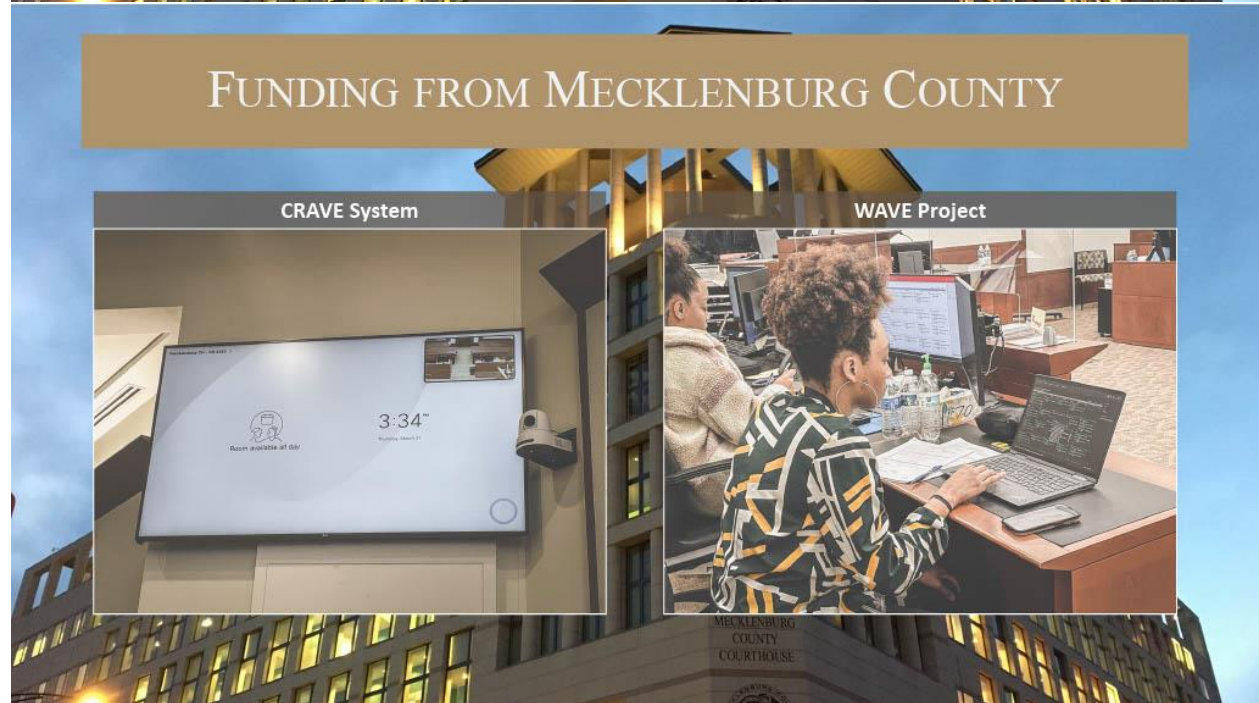
IDS OFFICE OF INDIGENT
DEFENSE SERVICES
SAFEGUARDING JUSTICE

Contract Positions

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Advancing Court Excellence

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FUNDING FROM MECKLENBURG COUNTY

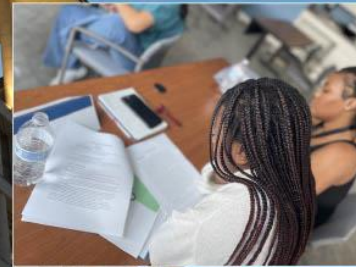
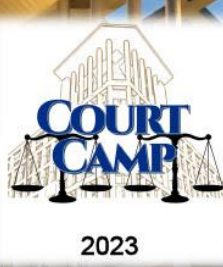
SelfServe Center PCs



District Court Coordinators

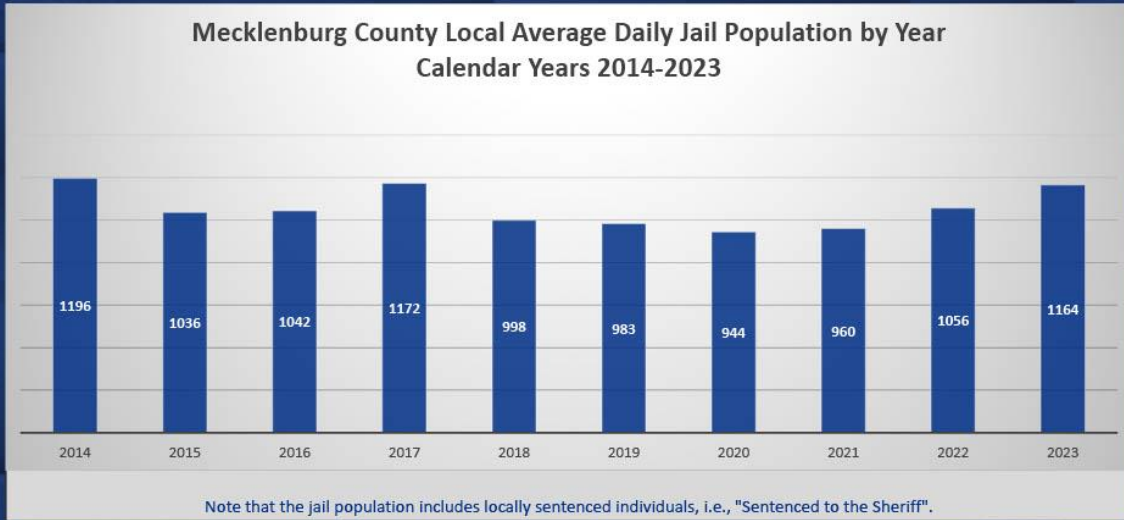


ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



**Meeting Minutes
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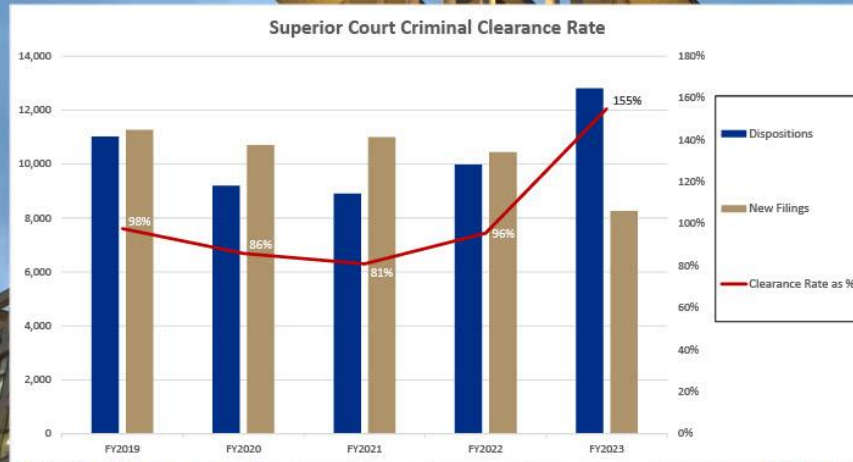
MECKLENBURG COUNTY AVERAGE DAILY JAIL POPULATION



SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL CLEARANCE RATE

Fiscal Year	Dispositions	New Filings	Clearance Rate as %
2019	11,017	11,263	98%
2020	9,196	10,697	86%
2021	8,904	10,997	81%
2022	9,977	10,434	96%
2023	12,798	8,251	155%
2019-2023	51,892	51,642	100%

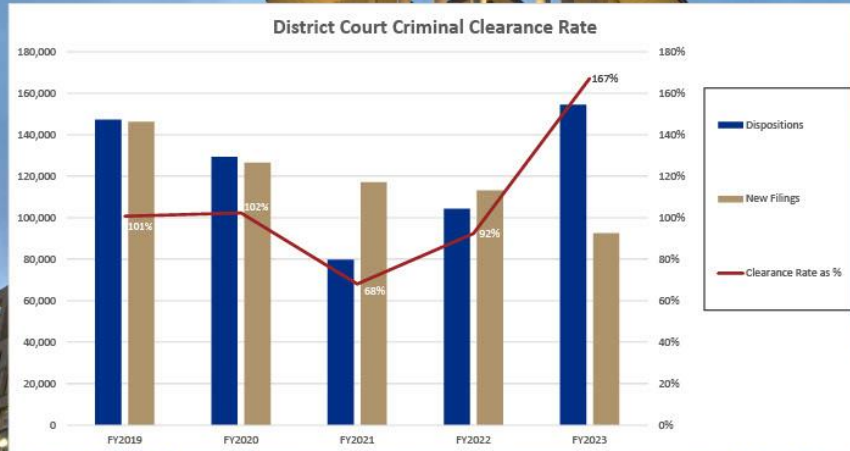
SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL TREND ANALYSIS



DISTRICT COURT CRIMINAL CLEARANCE RATE

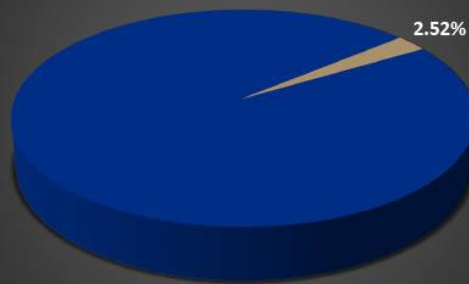
Fiscal Year	Dispositions	New Filings	Clearance Rate as %
2019	147,260	146,261	101%
2020	129,359	126,511	102%
2021	79,658	117,126	68%
2022	104,382	113,053	92%
2023	154,500	92,453	167%
2019-2023	615,159	595,404	103%

DISTRICT COURT CRIMINAL TREND ANALYSIS



THE JUDICIAL BRANCH RECEIVES LESS THAN 3% OF \$29.8 BILLION STATE BUDGET

Appropriations from General Fund FY 2023-2024



Judicial Branch All State Agencies

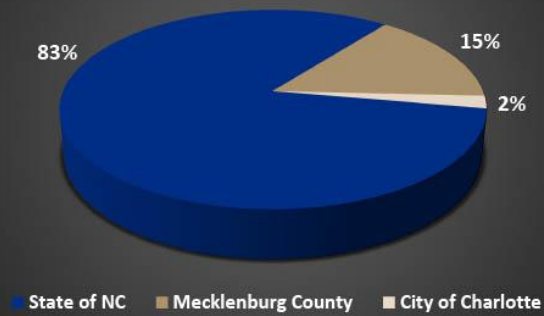
SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FROM MECKLENBURG COUNTY AND CITY OF CHARLOTTE

17%

Overall Funding Provided by Mecklenburg County
and the City of Charlotte

FUNDING BY SOURCE

Funding by Source Based on FTEs
FY 2023-2024



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COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET				
Operating Budget	FY2024 Adopted Budget	FY2025 Requested Budget	Variance	Percentage Change
Salaries	\$58,928	\$59,297	\$369	1%
Fringe Benefits	\$24,969	\$33,572	\$8,603	34%
Larry King's Clubhouse	\$260,000	\$275,000	\$15,000	6%
NCAOC & IDS Contracts	\$6,887,129	\$10,133,703	\$3,246,574	47%
Other Operational Investment	\$547,907	\$558,112	\$10,205	2%
Other Charges	\$831	\$831	\$0	0%
Total Ongoing Funding:	\$7,779,764	\$11,060,515	\$3,280,751	42%
One-Time Funds:	\$154,886	\$192,782	\$37,896	24%

COUNTY REQUESTS	
IMPROVEMENTS	
• Training for Public Defender's Office	\$ 10,680
• Gideon's Promise Program - \$6,000	
• Travel and Training for Two Social Workers - \$4,680	
• Office Furniture	\$ 48,389
• New Judge's Office - \$21,904	
• New Judicial Support Staff Workstation - \$14,985	
• District Attorney's Office Furniture Replacement - \$11,500	
• Document Management for Public Defender's Office	\$ 144,393
IMPROVEMENTS TOTAL:	\$ 203,462

COUNTY REQUESTS

PERSONNEL

- **Larry King's Clubhouse**

\$ 15,000

FY2024 Allocation	FY2025 Requested Allocation	Variance	Percentage Change
\$260,000	\$275,000	\$15,000	5.8%



COUNTY REQUESTS

PERSONNEL

- **IDS Contract Request**

Public Defender's Office

Fringe Benefit Cost Increases (14 Positions)

\$ 31,842

Salary Adjustments for Recruitment and Retention

\$ 80,000

FY2024 Allocation for IDS Contract Positions	FY2025 Requested Allocation for IDS Contract Positions	Variance	Percentage Change
\$1,016,574	\$1,128,416	\$111,842	11%

COUNTY REQUESTS

PERSONNEL

- **AOC Contract Request**

District Attorney's Office

Fringe Benefit Cost Increases (44 Positions) \$ 122,892

Salary Adjustments for Recruitment and Retention \$ 335,600

FY2024 Allocation for NCAOC Contract Positions	FY2025 Requested Allocation for NCAOC Contract Positions	Variance	Percentage Change
\$3,037,593	\$3,496,085	\$458,492	15%

COUNTY REQUESTS

PERSONNEL

- **AOC Contract Request**

Trial Court Administrator's Office

Fringe Benefit Cost Increases (14 Positions) \$ 20,070

Salary Adjustments for Recruitment and Retention \$ 42,872

FY2024 Allocation for NCAOC Contract Positions	FY2025 Requested Allocation for NCAOC Contract Positions	Variance	Percentage Change
\$1,210,119	\$1,273,061	\$62,942	5%

COUNTY REQUESTS

PERSONNEL

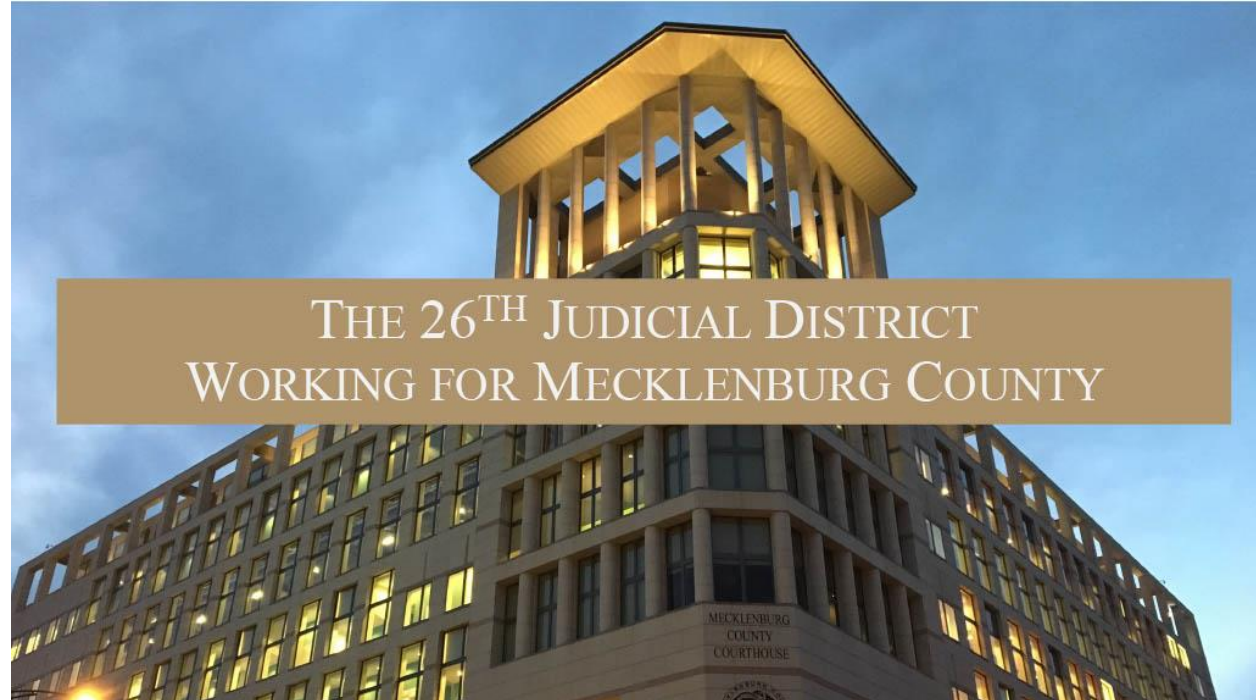
- AOC Contract Request

Clerk of Superior Court's Office

Fringe Benefit Cost Increases (8 Positions) **\$ 5,584**

Thirty-six (36) New Full-Time Deputy Clerk Positions **\$ 2,607,714**

FY2024 Allocation for NCAOC Contract Positions	FY2025 Requested Allocation for NCAOC Contract Positions	Variance	Percentage Change
\$580,536	\$3,193,834	\$2,613,298	450%



THE 26TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
 WORKING FOR MECKLENBURG COUNTY



QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU

CASEY CALLOWAY

TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR

MECKLENBURG COUNTY COURTHOUSE, SUITE 4420

(704) 686-0265

CASEY.L.CALLOWAY@NCCOURTS.ORG

Meeting Minutes
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Comments

Commissioner Altman asked how many kids attended the Larry King Clubhouse last year. *Ms. Calloway said she would get back to her. She said the clubhouse was open five days a week and served kids ages 0 to 14.*

Commissioner Altman asked the rate when they had to send a case to a private attorney. *Kevin Tully, Public Defender, said it was \$65 an hour and billed to indigent defense services.*

Commissioner Altman for information related to cases in which dispositions of cases were premature or defendants didn't serve the community because they were released out of the system sooner than later, alluding to recidivism. *Ms. Calloway said she could provide Commissioner Altman with data on recidivism rates in Mecklenburg County. Mr. Tully said that at that time, the public defender's office had two full-time social workers who identified defendants' needs and matched them with the community.*

Commissioner Meier thanked them. She asked, compared to other counties, what percentage the State gave, were urban counties receiving less than others. *Ms. Calloway said the funding was based on full-time employees. Mecklenburg County received 7.2% for full-time state-funded*

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positions, which means they received more than other counties. Judge Chinn-Gary said Mecklenburg County was at the top for the number of filings and at the bottom for the percentage of staffing that had been allocated.

Commissioner Meier said she didn't know what they could do, but it was a frustrating wall they kept coming against.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked if the total number of full-time social workers was 2. Mr. Tully said yes. However, *with the allotment, they could only hire a licensed social worker for half the year.*

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell said the people deserved a functioning court system. She said they had to fill those positions. She asked about the clearance rate for added positions and what they were. *Ms. Calloway said an Assistant District Attorney, legal assistants, an Assistant Public Defender, social workers, and Deputy Clerks of Superior Court, and other judicial support staff. She reiterated that overtime would end abruptly on June 30, 2024.*

Commissioner Powell said they would still be afloat even if they had funded everything. She asked if dismissals counted as their clearance rate. *Ms. Calloway said yes, they were included in the dispositions. Ms. Calloway asked if she thought it would help if law enforcement went to the State. Mr. Tully said that the people who control the dollars didn't live there and didn't care if the jail was overcrowded or if crime was going up because they didn't live there.*

Commissioner Griffin said it would have been nice to fund some of the systems that alleviated some of the trauma in the community.

Commissioner Cotham thanked them. She said she asked the same question a few years ago and saw they had taken on around \$400 million, essentially the State's responsibility. She asked for the pay of the lowest-paid person with Larry King Clubhouse. *Ms. Calloway said there was only an Executive Director and two or three other staff members. She said the lowest-paid staff person overall was a deputy clerk, set by statute. She said she would get further information for her.*

Commissioner Cotham said it didn't seem like they were asking for what they needed. *Mr. Tully said they would be happy with \$60,000 funding, but they would be happy with more.*

Commissioner Leake said they needed to fund areas with more critical needs. She hoped the Board would find a way to deter the idea that they didn't care. She asked how much it cost per day to house an inmate. *Ms. Calloway said she would get that information to her.*

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Commissioner Altman left the meeting at 4:11 p.m. and returned at 4:16 p.m.

Vice Chair Jerrell thanked them. He agreed they were asking for their needs, not wants. He asked Judge Chinn-Gary about the eight positions they had; the 36 they were asking for were contract positions. *Judge Chinn-Gary said no, they included full benefit packages.*

Vice Chair Jerrell asked her to break out the salary requirements. Judge Chinn-Gary said a little over \$35,000 (\$17 an hour) was the statutory minimum for a deputy clerk. Vice Chair Jerrell asked, with the additional 36 positions, if they were confident, they could fill them. *Judge Chinn-Gary said they had thought about where to house them, how to train them, and how to recruit them.* Vice Chair Jerrell said he supported their request.

Chair Dunlap thanked them.

24-0293 COVID-19 STRATEGIC RECOVERY PLAN EVALUATION UPDATE

The Board received as information an update on the staff's COVID-19 Strategic Recovery Plan evaluation findings.

Background: In 2021, the County developed a COVID-19 Strategic Recovery Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Plan included five priority areas and nine goals of focus. To evaluate the state of the Plan from March 2022 through June 30, 2023 (Year One evaluation), Office of Strategy & Innovation staff evaluated the various American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded programs and performance for those programs, as well as reviewed the degree to which the COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Task Force actions were executed over that defined period of time. Results indicate that the ARPA funded programs generally were successful and the Task Force actions are in progress or are complete. Staff will present the information highlighting the findings accordingly.

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Mecklenburg County

**COVID-19
Strategic Recovery Plan**
Year One Evaluation

Presented by: Office of Strategy & Innovation
Monica R. Allen, PhD
Board of County Commissioners Public Policy Meeting

May 14, 2024

STRATEGIC RECOVERY PLAN TIMELINE



**Meeting Minutes
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**COVID-19 STRATEGIC RECOVERY PLAN STRUCTURE
(PRIORITIES AND GOALS)**

The Plan is categorized into five priority areas, each of which are home to one or more goals for Mecklenburg County to progress toward.

Behavioral Health & Health Equity	Affordable Housing & Homelessness	Workforce & Economic Development	Parks, Environment, & Infrastructure	Childcare & Early Childhood Education
Goal 1: Improve behavioral health outcomes by increasing access to resources, services, and programming	Goal 1: Reduce and prevent homelessness & housing instability	Goal 1: Increase access to training and employment opportunities to meet workforce demands of now and in the future	Goal 1: Enhance the land and water quality through strengthened infrastructure	Goal 1: Increase access to affordable, quality childcare and education for children and families
Goal 2: Reduce health disparities through expansion of access to healthcare and health literacy		Goal 2: Strengthen organizations by equipping them with the tools to be resilient and provide work as aligned to County programs and services	Goal 2: Improve the physical infrastructure for parks, amenities, and greenways	
Goal 3: Increase food security with individuals and families				

Plan Approved December 2021

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EVALUATION STRUCTURE



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EVALUATION BRIEF

- Staff from the Finance Department (FIN) and the County Manager's Office (CMO)/Office of Strategy & Innovation (OSI) Team collaborated to gather ARPA related information for the Strategic Recovery Plan Year One Evaluation
 - 35 programs were funded through the Round One application process and were evaluated
 - 16 projects were funded outside of the Round One application process and thus were not evaluated

- Staff from the OSI Team collaborated with internal County departments to gather updates to the COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Task Force (the Task Force) action work
 - 60 actions were recommended by the Task Force
 - 14 actions were considered complete
 - 42 actions were considered in-progress
 - 4 actions were not considered for further action from the County

- This evaluation focuses on activities that occurred between March 2022 through June 2023

- Both quantitative (numerical results) and qualitative data (program and performance context) were obtained and reviewed

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EVALUATION LEGENDS

ARPA Program Evaluations

Evaluation Categories	Definitions
Successful	Program met holistic service or capital expectations for Year One
Progressed	Program advanced services or capital in Year One but did not meet holistic expectations
Unsuccessful	Program did not advance services or capital and generally did not progress what they intended
Not Evaluated	Program either did not have targets for Year One or were removed from the evaluation due to issues beyond the control of the program

Task Force Action Status Updates

Statuses	Definitions
Complete	Work related to an action has been accomplished
In-progress	Work related to an action is currently underway
Not started	Work related to an action has not begun
No action planned by County	No steps toward completing an action are recommended

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**Meeting Minutes
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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity (Overview)

Goal 1: Improve behavioral health outcomes by increasing access to resources, services, and programming		Goal 2: Reduce health disparities through expansion of access to healthcare and health literacy		Goal 3: Increase food security with individuals and families	
ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions	ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions	ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions
8	6	5	27	1	5

Priority Area Summary:

- Over 22,000 individuals received behavioral health treatment, additionally 23,000 received food through a grocery home delivery program
- Five programs completed capital improvements to expanded their physical space, increasing capacity to serve thousands more, including a residential facility for men seeking sobriety
- Nine out of 38 Task Force Actions were completed by the end of Year One, 27 remained in-progress, and there were two items for which the County is not taking action

Evaluator Comments:

- Investments made in these programs and as aligned to the Task Force Actions greatly helped increase access to health resources, services, and programming
- Food security was greatly enhanced by specific and targeted programs and initiatives





Limitations:

- The reduction of health disparities is an ongoing evaluation given the timing of the multi-year ARPA investments
- One ARPA funded program was not able to be evaluated due to a need for the program to complete capital initiatives before serving customers

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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity

Goal 1: Improve behavioral health outcomes by increasing access to resources, services, and programming
(ARPA Programs)





Programs	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 <p>The Center for Community Transitions (CCT)</p>	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatly exceeded target for number of counseling sessions provided to women • 96% of residents (53 out of 55) gained employment after incarceration
 <p>Charlotte Rescue Mission (CRM)</p>	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructed a new, state of the art, residential facility to serve men pursuing sobriety • Led 156 men to recovery and graduation through their residential program
 <p>Grace Mar Empowering Fathers Program</p>	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All fathers (25) were uninsured & received mental health services for their first time • Program was highlighted on MeckEffect, demonstrating positive change for families
 <p>Mental Health America (MHA)</p>	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformed existing physical space to extend counseling services targeted for uninsured and people of color • Initiated a communication campaign to reduce mental health stigma in communities of color that reached millions (i.e., tracked as impressions) through radio and billboards

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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity

Goal 1: Improve behavioral health outcomes by increasing access to resources, services, and programming
 (ARPA Programs Cont'd)

Programs		Evaluation	Summary of Findings
	Pat's Place	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greatly exceeded targets for number (1,300) of children & caregivers they served with a trauma-informed team of mental health professionals Outpaced targets set for providing consultations and assuring children are referred to appropriate, evidence-based practices for treatment
	Promise Resource Network	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevented hospitalization for 94 individuals through their respite program Operated an adequately staffed, peer-run "warm-line" with a 100% de-escalation rate
	Right Moves for Youth	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surpassed target for conducting group sessions (500) for middle and high schoolers to address social-emotional well-being of youth Noted reductions in depressed mood, anxiety, & displaying risky behaviors within the student population served
	Teen Health Connection	Not Evaluated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transformed existing space to create five new behavioral health treatment rooms During this Year One, one output target was set, that is to accomplish capital expansion Targets are set in Year Two to onboard new therapists and increase behavioral health patient volume and patient outcomes

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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity

Goal 1: Improve behavioral health outcomes by increasing access to resources, services, and programming
 (Task Force Actions)

All Task Force Actions



FY2023 Statuses

- Complete
- In-progress

Highlighted Task Force Actions*	Statuses	Updates
32H: Increase funding and resources for substance abuse treatment, therapy, recovery and care	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County staff and the Substance Use Disorder Task Force developed the 2023 to 2025 "Wave One Spending Plan" to strategically plan the initial utilization of Mecklenburg County's \$73M Opioid Settlement disbursement Mecklenburg County staff provide day to day services to those with substance use disorders
33H: Inventory access to mental health care for employees among educational, childcare, and adult care providers and devote targeted resources to fill in gaps where needed for front line workers in these sectors	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County contracted with a vendor to begin a community behavioral health gap analysis Mecklenburg County staff partnered with Alliance Health staff to update the Network Adequacy and Accessibility Analysis The MECK Pre-K Program continued to provide monthly reimbursements for health insurance to provide wider access to care for all MECK Pre-K teachers






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*Actions shown here are a sub-selection to highlight the work done under this priority area. The full list of action updates can be found in the appendix.

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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity


Goal 2: Reduce health disparities through expansion of access to healthcare and health literacy
(ARPA Programs)

Programs	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 Camino Community Development Corporation	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovated their building, adding five therapy rooms, offices, and a play area for children, to address needs of underserved Latino immigrants Greatly exceeded target for number of individuals served (over 2,000)
 Care Ring	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded program by creating an additional team within their Nurse-Family Partnership program, serving low-income, pregnant women and mothers Targeted population delivered 38 babies while having supports of this program known to improve pre- and post- natal outcomes
 Project 658 Hope Community Clinic	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchased building to expand Hope Community Clinic to meet medical and behavioral needs of uninsured and underinsured population Greatly outpaced target (50) set for number of individuals (216) that received psychiatric services
 University City Foundation	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of individuals completed housing stability counseling Outpaced targets set for number of individuals who get linked to resources to address household food insecurity and physical health needs
 Vision To Learn	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Far exceeded targets set for number of students who received an eye exam and for the number of students provided eyeglasses

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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity

Goal 2: Reduce health disparities through expansion of access to healthcare and health literacy
(Task Force Actions)

All Task Force Actions	Highlighted Task Force Actions*	Statuses	Updates
 <p>FY2023 Statuses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete In-progress No action planned 	<p>1H: Create and implement a comprehensive health communications and community outreach/engagement program</p>	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hired its first Director of Health Equity to create guidelines and frameworks that will be used across the Public Health Department Completed a major tobacco prevention and cessation communication campaign in FY2023 and planned a healthy food campaign for FY2024
	<p>9H: Expand the County's community health workers program to help build relationships, understanding of needs, and awareness of resources between healthcare providers and residents in local areas and communities</p>	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County launched two new initiatives to help support community health workers (CHWs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Stakeholder Advisory Collaborative (SAC) comprised of organizations that employ or invest in CHWs A coalition for current and future CHWs, called the Queen City Community Connect Coalition From July 2022 to May 2023, CHWs connected 216 unduplicated clients to basic needs/care resources


*Actions shown here are a sub-selection to highlight the work done under this priority area. The full list of action updates can be found in the appendix.

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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity

Goal 3: Increase food security with individuals and families
(ARPA Programs)

Program	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 <p>Nourish Up (Previously known as Loaves & Fishes/ Friendship Trays)</p>	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greatly exceeded the target (7,600) for number of residents (23,447) receiving food through the home delivery program Exceeded all outcome targets set for Year One - indicates residents are more financially secure, eating healthier, and have improved food security

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Priority Area 1: Behavioral Health and Health Equity

Goal 3: Increase food security with individuals and families
(Task Force Actions)

All Task Force Actions	Highlighted Task Force Action*	Status	Updates
 <p>FY2023 Statuses ■ Complete ■ In-progress</p>	<p>5C: Expand access at the neighborhood level with more small pop-up markets, gardens and mobile fresh food buses</p>	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established eight new edible landscape sites in Public Health Priority Areas Worked with farmers markets (16 total) to accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits through the Double Bucks Program Expanded the Healthy Corner Store Refrigeration Program by two, for a total of seven stores Completed a 16-week "Fresh, Healthy, Local" communication campaign to build awareness for the Double Bucks Program at farmers markets and healthy corner stores Partnered with the Latin Chamber of Commerce to distribute over 3,900 nutritionally balanced meals to low-income Hispanic/Latin American residents Provided 78,252 meals to 560 senior citizens through the Senior Nutrition Program Provided food resources to clients of the Community Support Services Department through a partnership with Ada Jenkins. Ada Jenkins assisted 1,886 clients

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*The action shown here is a sub-selection to highlight the work done under this priority area. The full list of action updates can be found in the appendix.

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Priority Area 2: Affordable Housing & Homelessness (Overview)

Goal 1: Reduce and prevent homelessness & housing instability

ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions
7	7

Priority Area Summary:

- Over 9,000 individuals were served with housing support and retention services and 86 new landlords were recruited to provide low-income housing options
- Two programs focused on purchasing land in the county, eight parcels in total, to reserve for affordable housing
- Five out of seven Task Force Actions remained in-progress and two were planned for no further action

Evaluator Comments:

- Investments made in these programs and as aligned to the Task Force Actions greatly helped increase access to housing security resources, helped individuals stay housed, and helped shelter individuals who were unhoused
- The addition of affordable housing landlords and the purchase of property increased the long-term amount of affordable housing options for County residents

Limitations:

- The affordable housing needs of residents is an ongoing evaluation given the timing of the multi-year ARPA investments
- One ARPA funded program was not able to be evaluated due to a need for the program to complete capital initiatives before serving customers

Priority Area 2: Affordable Housing & Homelessness

Goal 1: Reduce and prevent homelessness & housing instability
(ARPA Programs)

Programs	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 Freedom Fighting Missionaries	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatly exceeded target (87) for number of individuals served (1,351) • Able to scale most services to match the increased demand on the program
 Habitat for Humanity	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchased two parcels as originally intended • At least one parcel met the B-rated school and home sale price criteria as intended
 Housing Collaborative (Social Serve)	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruited 86 new landlords to provide affordable housing units • Came close and even exceeded outcome targets tracking housing retention and housing placements in high economic areas
 Pineville Neighbors Place	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted 197 households stay housed with a 93% housing retention rate after 6 months • Provided an average of \$1,001 in rental assistance to households

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Priority Area 2: Affordable Housing & Homelessness

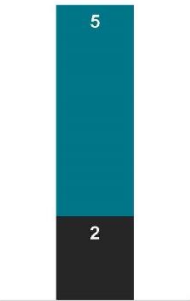
Goal 1: Reduce and prevent homelessness & housing instability
 (ARPA Programs Cont'd)

Programs	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 Roof Above	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greatly exceeded number of unduplicated individuals (7,121) sheltered at the Giles Center and the number of bed nights provided (59,552)
 The Relatives	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Served 192 young adults over original target (40) Maintained "Housing First" philosophy by exceeding all stable housing outcomes
 Smithville Community Coalition	Not Evaluated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is mainly a capital-based project No targets were set in Year One for the program's outcome

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Priority Area 2: Affordable Housing & Homelessness

Goal 1: Reduce and prevent homelessness & housing instability
 (Task Force Actions)

All Task Force Actions	Highlighted Task Force Actions*	Statuses	Updates
 <p>FY2023 Statuses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-progress No action planned 	1E: Provide direct financial assistance as eviction moratoriums end	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DreamKey Partners distributed all \$6.7M in Round One Federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds and nearly all of the \$5.3M Round 2 ERA funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only \$512K remained to be spent in FY2024
	2E: Provide increased supports to organizations providing temporary or crisis assistance to those experiencing homelessness or in imminent threat of homelessness	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10,267 unduplicated individuals were served with ERA funds. 6,260 received ERA funding more than once Through Mecklenburg County vendor funding, Legal Aid and the Center for Legal Advocacy provided eviction prevention and diversion services to 726 tenants at risk of eviction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 635 evictions were prevented and 73 evictions were delayed
	3E: Expand resources for deposit, application fee and service fee waivers that are often barriers to those experiencing homelessness	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County's Housing Innovation and Stabilization Services (HISS) reported a housing stability rate of 90%
	4E: Increase resources to agencies involved in supporting tenants' awareness of rights, responsibilities, and resources in times of need	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HISS built landlord relationships to increase available housing options for Community Support Services (CSS) Department clients and launched a landlord digest to help inform these landlords about housing programs Mecklenburg County's Client Benefit Fund helped 31 CSS clients through a total of \$31K in direct assistance for critical housing needs

*Actions shown here are a sub-selection to highlight the work done under this priority area. The full list of action updates can be found in the appendix.

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Priority Area 3: Workforce & Economic Development (Overview)

Goal 1: Increase access to training, work, and employment opportunities for essential workers to meet workforce demands of now and in the future		Goal 2: Strengthen organizations by equipping them with the tools to be resilient and provide work as aligned to County programs and services	
ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions	ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions
7	7	0	7

Priority Area Summary:

- Over 2,500 individuals were provided job and education training and job placement services
- 120 individuals were placed into jobs
- Five Task Force Actions were completed by the end of Year One and nine remained in-progress

Evaluator Comments:

- Investments made in these programs and as aligned to the Task Force Actions helped increase job preparedness via education and training opportunities and further helped meet workforce demand by placing individuals into open positions
- Work aligned to the Task Force Actions helped strengthen local businesses by providing business loans, providing space for non-profit support, and advocating for diversity investments and second-chance workers

Limitations:

- Strengthening the local workforce and business environment is an ongoing evaluation given the timing of the multi-year ARPA investments
- For one ARPA program, no initial targets were set by the program. As such, the program was not able to be evaluated

Priority Area 3: Workforce & Economic Development

Goal 1: Increase access to training, work, and employment opportunities for essential workers to meet workforce demands of now and in the future
(ARPA Programs)


Programs	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 Angels and Sparrows	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most output and outcome targets were met or exceeded • 87% of students either maintained or improved their reading or math scores
 Charlotte Mecklenburg Black Chamber of Commerce*	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program helped 93% of clients complete needed certifications and find jobs in the health field and 90% found job placements • Increased client income by 80% overall and reduced critical vacancies in Dental and Orthopedic jobs by 27%
 City Start Up Labs	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 70% of participants completed the Learn/Earn/Build workforce training • Program served 27 clients, though only the first cohort (14 clients) completed training in the year
 International House	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatly exceeded target (600) for number of individuals served (1,945) • Met or exceeded targets for immigration and language needs in a time of increased demand for these needs in Mecklenburg County due to migration

*Program was aligned to one strategy in Behavioral Health & Health Equity and two strategies in Workforce and Economic Development

Meeting Minutes
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Priority Area 3: Workforce & Economic Development


Goal 1: Increase access to training, work, and employment opportunities for essential workers to meet workforce demands of now and in the future
(ARPA Programs Cont'd)

Programs	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 National Center on Institutions and Alternatives	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 80% of clients obtained an industry recognized credential, increasing their skill-based employability Average hourly wage for clients was \$4 higher than originally targeted
 PowerUp USA	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduated 100% of adult clients from the program's digital literacy/job preparedness course which helped 29 clients (80%) obtain employment Graduated 112 out of 115 (97%) students from the coding/ gaming/ filmmaking programs Helped 143 artists increase their funding, networking, and collaboration opportunities
 Aspire Community Capital	Not Evaluated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No targets were set for this program in Year One, so no evaluation could be performed

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Priority Area 3: Workforce & Economic Development

Goal 1: Increase access to training, work, and employment opportunities for essential workers to meet workforce demands of now and in the future
(Task Force Actions)

Task Force Actions	Highlighted Task Force Actions*	Statuses	Updates
 <p>FY2023 Statuses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete In-progress 	7E: Revisit and analyze the recommendations of the Opportunity Task Force (now Leading on Opportunity) to grow economic mobility	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County collaborated with Leading on Opportunities (LOO) to gather and report County dollars invested from FY2021 to FY2023 in support of non-profits in the community LOO planned to use this information, along with other private sector data to update its "Opportunity Compass"
	12E: Increase investments in programs for job training, workforce preparedness and connecting job seekers to employers with open positions	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County utilized \$94K of a \$1M three-year grant from the Department of Labor to hire an employment coordinator and two case managers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These staff helped 78 clients begin various training programs Using \$125K in participatory budgeting funding, Mecklenburg County partnered with Lake Norman Economic Development to connect 19 high school students to paid internships Mecklenburg County also funded \$226K to She Built This City and \$199K to The ROC to extend workforce development training for residents

*Actions shown here are a sub-selection to highlight the work done under this priority area. The full list of action updates can be found in the appendix.

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Priority Area 3: Workforce & Economic Development

Goal 2: Strengthen organizations by equipping them with the tools to be resilient and provide work as aligned to County programs and services
(Task Force Actions)

Task Force Actions	Highlighted Task Force Actions*	Statuses	Updates
<p>FY2023 Statuses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete In-progress 	<p>11E: Incentivize training and hiring of second-chance workers for Mecklenburg County employment opportunities, companies doing business in Mecklenburg County today and for companies considering locating to Mecklenburg County</p>	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County does not use criminal histories as an exclusionary factor when hiring for County positions and encourages companies who want to do work in the county to consider policies around the non-exclusion of justice-involved individuals from employment opportunities Mecklenburg County created a vocation and professional development guide for both justice-involved individuals and for employers
	<p>14E: Explore programs to sustain small businesses in our local economy by matching these small businesses that offer goods and services to community customers with large corporations in our area (such as Amazon) that have marketing, logistics, and distribution capacity</p>	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mecklenburg County began implementing the recommendations of the Office of Economic Development Disparity Study including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocating more staffing and resources to the County's Minority, Women, and Small Business Enterprise (MWSBE) program Meeting MWSBE subcontracting goals Encourage subcontractors to make good faith efforts to include MWSBE companies and other recommendations

*Actions shown here are a sub-selection to highlight the work done under this priority area. The full list of action updates can be found in the appendix.

Priority Area 4: Parks, Environment, & Infrastructure (Overview)

Goal 1: Enhance the land & water quality through strengthened infrastructure		Goal 2: Improve the physical infrastructure for parks, amenities, and greenways	
ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions	ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions
1	0	0	1

Priority Area Summary:

- 10 homes had dangerous lead pipes completely removed and replaced in only two months
- The one Task Force action remained in-progress

Evaluator Comments:

- Investments made in the Cherry Community Organization and as aligned to the Task Force action helped address aspects of the County's infrastructure by replacing lead-based piping and helped improve our park offerings by beginning the process of public Wi-Fi installations and enhancements

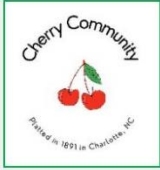
Limitations:

- Enhancing the County's natural environment and built infrastructure is an ongoing evaluation given the timing of the multi-year ARPA investments

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Priority Area 4: Parks, Environment, & Infrastructure

Goal 1: Enhance the land & water quality through strengthened infrastructure
 (ARPA Program)

Program	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 <p>The Cherry Community Organization</p>	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In only two months, this program identified the target number of low-income households for pipe replacement and proceeded to complete the replacements on 10 of the 13 homes The program also started the process of identifying even more low-income households with lead pipe replacement needs

Priority Area 4: Parks, Environment, & Infrastructure

Goal 2: Improve the physical infrastructure for parks, amenities, and greenways
 (Task Force Action)

Task Force Actions	Highlighted Task Force Action*	Status	Updates
 <p>FY2023 Statuses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-progress 	9E: Require publicly available, broadband access to Wi-Fi in all County public spaces	In-progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through an application submitted by the Park and Recreation Department (PRK), \$1.3M was allotted to seven recreation centers, six County parks, and one indoor pavilion to receive public Wi-Fi connections and enhancements A Request for Procurement (RFP) was posted for a vendor to manage the Wi-Fi service offerings at these County PRK facilities

*The action shown here is a sub-selection to highlight the work done under this priority area. The full list of action updates can be found in the appendix.

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Priority Area 5: Childcare & Early Childhood Development (Overview)

Goal 1: Increase access to affordable, quality childcare and education for children and families

ARPA Programs	Task Force Actions
6	0

Priority Area Summary:

- A mix of 323 children and families were provided early childhood education services, including parent to child engagement training, pre-k readiness, and supplemental elementary education
- Additionally, over 1,900 early education books and toys were distributed to participating families with young children
- No Task Force Actions were aligned to this priority area

Evaluator Comments:







- Investments made in these programs greatly helped increase access to childcare resources, services, and programming, specifically for residents who may otherwise have had difficulties accessing quality childcare

Limitations:

- Increasing access to affordable and quality childcare is an ongoing evaluation given the timing of the multi-year ARPA investments
- Due to changes in one ARPA funded program, both measures and targets were not available for the evaluation

Priority Area 5: Childcare & Early Childhood Development

Goal 1: Increase access to affordable, quality childcare and education for children and families
(ARPA Programs)

Programs	Evaluation	Summary of Findings
 Charlotte Community Services Association (CSA)	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program was able to complete the capital improvements needed to ensure their facility met County safety standards. This was the main element preventing this program from achieving a higher preschool quality ranking
 Charlotte Bilingual Preschool	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatly exceeded target (26) for individuals served (81) • Successfully helped families engage with their community, strengthened inter-family engagement, and increased school readiness domains with 74% children evaluated
 Creating Opportunities for Resident Empowerment (CORE), Inlivan	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results are low but this is due to two factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services began late (in November) • Two phased service (cycle 1 and 2). Many children did not enter cycle 2 and thus could not be counted into some outcomes • For most measures, program was on track to meet targets if given a full 12 months
 The Summer Camp Fund	Successful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sent four more children to camps than originally expected with less than two months to prepare (contract signed in May, summer camps began in June) • Chose quality camps to send these kids to as shown by the exceeded camp quality scores (outcomes)
 ourBRIDGE*	Not Evaluated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program was operating under a different set of targets for five out of 12 measures but was not corrected by County program staff
 Smart Start of Mecklenburg County	Not Evaluated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received permission to forgo tracking outcomes in Year One. Program instead assessed the landscape of existing home visiting services and performed a gap analysis to determine community need for child/family visiting services

*Program was aligned to one strategy in Behavioral Health & Health Equity and one strategy in Childcare & Early Childhood Development

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OVERALL EVALUATION LIMITATIONS

Long-term Impacts versus Short-term Progress

- Impact refers to the results of long-term outcomes
- One year is not enough time for these programs to produce long-term results, especially since many had to also set up their program in Year One
- Future evaluations may be better indications of program outcome and success

Measuring Impact with Performance Targets

- Impact can only be measured when performance targets are set
- The COVID-19 Task Force Actions did not have targets or measurements

Variation in Year One Context

- Information received from each ARPA program varied and thus is reflected in the length of context provided in the evaluation report
- Some programs were operational for 16 months while others took some time to set up before they began providing services

Turnover in ARPA Program Staff and County Staff

- Staff from both the County and ARPA programs have experienced turnover, creating some challenges with institutional knowledge of the ARPA programs and performance measures

Validating and Communicating Monthly Performance Results

- Monthly data validating process sometimes resulted in knowledge gaps with ARPA programs
- The variance between the County's validated data and ARPA program's historic data caused challenges in reconciliation of data questions

“Other” Round One ARPA Projects/Programs

- 16 projects/programs were funded outside the regular application process and not aligned to strategies in the SRP; therefore, they could not be included in the Round One SRP evaluation

OVERALL EVALUATION SUMMARY



- All **Round One ARPA Programs** included in this evaluation generally progressed their services to the extent possible given the variability of initiating services in the first year of funding
- Programs focused on direct services were able to provide the much-needed services in community
- Some programs required capital investment first and completion of capital projects before directly servicing customer customers
- Though the Office of Strategy & Innovation (OSI) team was not able to evaluate the five programs categorized as “Not evaluated,” these programs were also seen to have generally progressed their services to the extent possible
- Good progress was made in FY2023 toward completing the COVID-19 Task Force Actions
 - Six moved from “In-progress” to “Complete”
 - None remained “Not started”

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Comments

Commissioner Powell left the meeting at 4:16 p.m. and returned at 4:20 p.m.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Powell, and unanimously carried, to extend the meeting past 5 p.m.

Commissioner Rodriguez-McDowell asked about Pat's Place. She said she saw they were successful, but how did it relate to clawbacks. *Dr. Allen said that even due to the clawbacks, they were able to meet their targets.*

Chair Dunlap clarified the possibilities of what could have taken place in relation to clawbacks and the organizations' budgets.

Commissioner Powell asked Dr. Allen to reiterate what she presented on the Smithville Community, as she didn't hear the ending. She asked concerning the summer camp fund, if she had an idea(target) of how many children were sent. *Gauge Tillman, Strategy & Innovation Analyst, said the target was 176, and they sent 180.*

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Commissioner Meier asked if ARPA funds included only one year (round). *Dr. Allen said yes, just year 1. She said they were currently in year 2, so it couldn't be included.*

Commissioner Cotham asked if Dr. Allen designed this model. *Dr. Allen said yes and that she worked with the Executive Team.* Commissioner Cotham asked for clarification concerning the Center for Community Transitions and how many were housed. *Dr. Allen mentioned it was more so about those who gained employment after incarceration. She said they provided 686 sessions, with a target of 636.*

Commissioner Cotham asked if they shared the information with the federal representatives since it was ARPA dollars. *Dr. Allen said they hadn't, but there was an annual report, and the evaluation was not required.*

Commissioner Leake thanked her. She said the information needed to be disseminated to the public.

Vice Chair Jerrell said the presentation highlighted the people's voice. He was excited about what they saw and delivered and hoped the community saw how they included him.

Chair Dunlap said his biggest concern was the ones who weren't evaluated or met their goals. He said maybe they could offer some support. He thanked staff for their efforts and asked for follow-up on the ones who weren't evaluated.

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24-0299 COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners shared information of their choosing within the guidelines as established by the Board, which included, but not limited to, past and/or upcoming events.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Dunlap declared the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Arlissa Eason, Deputy Clerk to the Board

George Dunlap, Chairman