



## Legislation Text

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**Title:**  
**Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge Award**

**Summary**

**ACTION:**

**Receive a brief presentation from the Aetna Foundation for the Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge Award**

**Staff Contact:** Gibbie Harris, MSPH, BSN, Health Director

**Presentation:** Yes

**BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:**

Cities, counties and federally recognized tribes that show measurable improvements in health indicators and social determinants of health have had the opportunity to compete for the Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge. The challenge is offered by the Aetna Foundation, the American Public Health Association (APHA) and the National Association of Counties (NACo), in partnership with CEOs for Cities.

Mecklenburg County, along with its faith-based partners, is being recognized for its Village HeartBEAT (VHB) Program. The vision of VHB is to ensure that everyone in Mecklenburg County will enjoy good health regardless of their race/ethnicity, gender, disability, age, or socioeconomic status. Pursuit of this vision began in 2012 when the Mecklenburg County Public Health (MCPH) and the Partners in Eliminating Health Disparities (PHED) coalition developed VHB. The goal of VHB has been to prevent cardiovascular disease through the overall strategy of adopting healthy behaviors (reduced tobacco use, improved nutrition, and increased physical activity) in high-risk Public Health Priority Areas (PHPAs).

**PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND:**

N/A

**POLICY IMPACT:**

N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A

