

**Rutherford County, North Carolina  
Outside Agency Budget Request  
Fiscal Year 2020–2021**

**Agency Information**

Agency Name: Partners Behavioral Health Management  
Contact Name: Susan Lackey, Chief Financial Officer  
Address: 901 South New Hope Road, Gastonia, NC 28054  
Telephone: 704-842-6310  
E-mail Address: [slackey@partnersbhm.org](mailto:slackey@partnersbhm.org)

**Rutherford County Funding Request**

Requested 2019/2021 \$102,000  
Requested 2020/2021 \$102,000

**General Agency Information – Program Description**

Partners Behavioral Health Management is a local management entity and a managed care organization. Our purpose is to manage a behavioral health care system funded by federal, state and local taxpayer dollars. This system will ensure that all individuals who are eligible for our programs have access to quality providers and effective services. Our mission is to improve lives and strengthen our communities by focusing on positive outcomes and the proper use of funds entrusted to us.

**Why are County funds being requested, and how will the funds be used?**

County funds are being requested to assure individuals with behavioral health needs (mental health, substance use and/or intellectual and developmental disabilities) receive the services that they need to help ameliorate the symptoms of their disability and/or improve their quality of life.

The categories below identify our desired initiatives for Rutherford County residents. The identified categories are:

- Therapy services in the Rutherford County jail- a licensed therapist will be utilized to provide assessments and therapy in the jail setting, as well as consultation and advisement to the jail staff in regard to individuals' behavioral health needs while they are incarcerated.
- Peer support services in DSS- a peer support specialist embedded in the Department of Social Services will assist children and families involved with DSS connect with behavioral health services. The peer support specialist will also help families reach goals set by DSS.
- Consumer housing reserves- to assist individuals in need of emergency housing resources.
- Consumer reserves – Fund services not covered by other funding sources.
- United Way funding to support grant writing for behavioral health programs.

**Program Performance Measurements – Describe how program success is measured and data it is based upon.**

Historically, county funding has been utilized to help individuals with behavioral health needs who do not have Medicaid benefits but need ongoing access to treatment and other resources to be stable and live in the community. We request to continue the use of county funds in this manner. Measures of success for the program includes number of individuals served, quality of the service, and positive outcomes for the consumer.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve the residents of Rutherford County.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Date Submitted:** May 18, 2020