

## FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE CARLA CUNNINGHAM 106<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT MECKLENBURG COUNTY

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday October 2, 2023

## REPRESENTATIVE CARLA CUNNINGHAM ANNOUNCES MEDICAID EXPANSION AND \$14 MILLION FOR LOCAL NON-PROFITS, SCHOOL LUNCH DEBTS, AND OTHER NORTH CAROLINA AGENCIES

Charlotte, NC – Today, Representative Carla Cunningham, NC House District 106 Mecklenburg County announced that the NC Budget includes the passage of Medicaid Expansion after 14 years of fighting for Medicaid Expansion. This passage will benefit 600,000 people who languished without access to health care and help restore rural hospitals and health clinics. Since 2009 when Cunningham and seven others organized the Charlotte Healthcare Coalition, Medicaid Expansion has been her top priority. And upon her 2012 NC State House election, she began to push for Medicaid Expansion.

The structure of the budget required a great deal of compromise and is a positive step forward. Representative Cunningham sees the Budget as a major victory for the people of North Carolina, and it will make a real difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of people who have been struggling without health care coverage.

"When people have access to quality healthcare, they are more likely to be able to live an improved quality of life, and their families can thrive." And "These individuals will be less likely to end up in the emergency room or incur medical debt."

The \$14 million, I negotiated for local small nonprofits will benefit the people in our communities including District106 and other areas of Mecklenburg County.

This funding comes directly from the 2023 Budget recently passed by the North Carolina General Assembly that Representative Cunningham helped to negotiate and Voted into Law.

Representative Cunningham is the Primary Sponsor of several Bills that were included in the Budget.

- · Medicaid Expansion- HB76 Access to Healthcare
- · Jail Inspectors (2) HB 380 Provide Support to Jail Facilities
- · Reduce School Lunch Debt-HB 509 (Covers students from all over the State)

"I am particularly pleased to see that the 2023 Budget also includes funding for local nonprofits. These organizations play a vital role in our communities, and they provide essential services to people who need them most. I am hopeful that the funds will help them to continue their important work."

Non-Profits: \$2million

- · Life Span Services
- · The Relatives
- · Living Water, Inc
- · Huntersville Fire Departments
- · Hope Haven
- · Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region, Inc.
- $\cdot$  YMCA of Greater Charlotte for the Keith Family YMCA
- · Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina
- $\cdot \ Gracious \ Hands \ Transitional \ Housing \ for \ Homeless \ Women \ and \ Children$
- · A Safe Space

Never wish life were easier, wish that you were better.

- Jim Rohn

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