AGENDA
HCESP Advisory Council Meeting

September 24, 2026 | 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

PACE of Cincinnati
4850 Smith Rd, Cincinnati 45212

CALL TO ORDER	2:00	Janice Hunter
APPROVAL OF MINUTES ❖ September 2, 2026 Minutes (Action Needed)	2:00-2:05	Janice Hunter
QUARTERLY REPORTS ❖ Program Dashboard & Financial Report ❖ Program Update Report	2:05-2:15 2:15-2:25	Kim Clark & Ronnie Spears Antoinette Moore
OLD BUSINESS ❖ Guardianship Gap Program Update ❖ ESP Advisory Council Hybrid Policy (Action Needed) ❖ CareDirector Update ❖ Steps to Stability Program Update	2:25 – 2:35 2:35 – 2:45 2:45 – 2:55 2:55 – 3:05	Ken Wilson Ken Wilson Kim Clark Kim Clark
NEW BUSINESS ❖ Veteran Directed Care Program ❖ Draft 2027 Budget (Action Needed)	3:05 – 3:15 3:15-3:25	Stephanie Seyfried Ronnie Spears
HEARING THE PUBLIC	3:25-3:30	Janice Hunter
ADJOURNMENT (Action Needed)	3:30	Janice Hunter

NEXT MEETING: December 3, 2026

MINUTES
HCESP ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026 @ 4:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present:	*COA Staff:*	*Guests:*
Viola Brown Randi Burlew Janine Gage April Harper Janice Hunter Dimity Orlet	Kim Clark	
Excused:	*Facilitator:*	*Scribe:*
Holly Mundon	Janice Hunter	Christina Adams
Absent:		

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the HCESP Advisory Council on September 2, 2026 was called to order by Janice Hunter at 4:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Janice Hunter called for a motion to approve the June 25, 2026 Hamilton County Elderly Services Program (HCESP) Advisory Council minutes as presented.

Motion: April Harper made a motion to approve the June 25, 2026 minutes.
Second: Randi Burlew seconded the motion.
Action: The June 25, 2026 minutes were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Steps to Stability Program – Utility Credit Criteria Changes

A special meeting of the Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council was called to review the proposed changes to the Steps to Stability-Utility Credit Program eligibility criteria so that implementation would not be delayed by waiting until the next scheduled quarterly meeting. The goal of the criteria changes is to improve equitable access by giving more individuals an opportunity to benefit from limited resources. Kim reviewed the two primary criteria changes: (1) Utility credits would explicitly be made subject to available funding, allowing the program to adapt to changing financial resources rather than guaranteeing assistance beyond available dollars and (2) prioritize applications for those that did not receive assistance in the last calendar year to promote equitable access to assistance. Applications will continue to be collected during the open period and, if demand exceeds funding, applicants will be selected through a random drawing rather than a first-come, first-served process. Following discussion and revision of the wording by the Advisory Council for clarification, Janice requested a motion to approve to accept the Steps to Stability – Utility Credit Program criteria changes.

Motion: Randi Burlew made a motion to approve the proposed changes to Steps to Stability – Utility Credit Program.

Second: April Harper seconded the motion.

Action: The proposed changes to the Steps to Stability – Utility Credit Program were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

HEARING THE PUBLIC

No one from the public was in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Janice asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Motion: Randi Burlew made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Janine Gage seconded the motion.
Action: The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

September 24, 2026

Hamilton County
ESP Program and Financial Report
Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)

Hamilton County ESP
Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlighted Findings

1. Traditional ESP Census Trends

A. Compared to last year (Quarter 2, 2025), census has increased by 79 clients (from 3,892 to 3,971) or 2.03%.

B. Compared to last quarter (Quarter 1, 2026), census has decreased by 12 clients (from 3,983 to 3,971) or -0.3%.

*__Note__: Managed enrollment was administered in Hamilton County from May 1st, 2023 through July 7th, 2025.

2. Fast Track Home Census Trends

A. Average length of stay increased by 1 day when compared to Quarter 1, 2026 (from 55 to 56).

B. New Enrollments increased by 18 compared to Quarter 1, 2026 (from 328 to 346).

C. Total clients who transferred to ESP from FTH increased when compared to Quarter 1, 2026 (from 138 to 149).

3. Financials

A. Total Revenue: The amount projected to be drawn down from the levy is $29.3 million through the second quarter, as compared to the budgeted amount of $30.5 million. The variance is under budget by $1,159,573 or 3.8%.

B. Total Expenses: The expenses projected as of the second quarter are $30.7 million as compared to $31.8 million in the budget. The variance is under budget by $1,139,372 or 3.6%.

C. Purchase Services: The projected purchased services expenses are under by $1,546,697 or 6.6% as compared to budget.

Hamilton County ESP

Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)

TRADITIONAL ESP CENSUS TRENDS

Quarter-End Census by Program

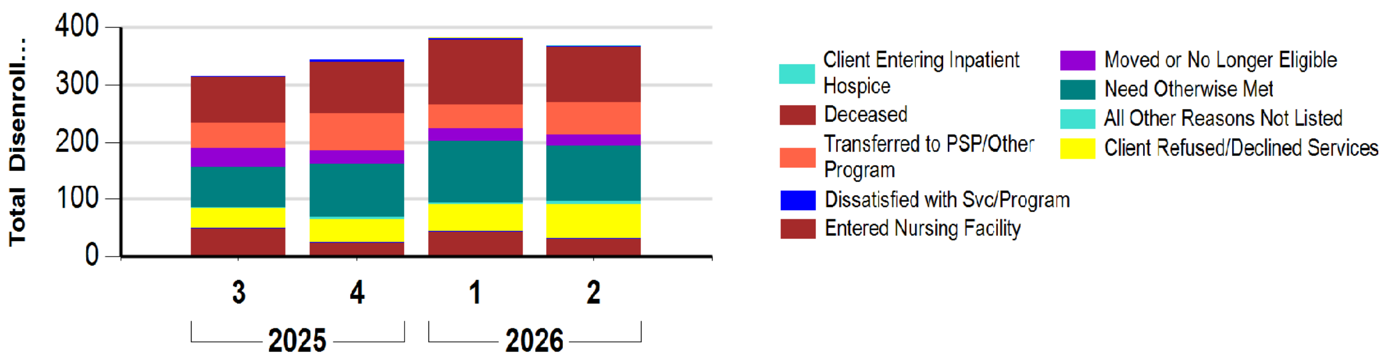
Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
ESP	**3,923**	**3,992**	**3,983**	**3,971**
FTH	**190**	**182**	**202**	**189**
Medicaid Programs	**3,635**	**3,772**	**3,543**	**3,574**
Passport	631	690	571	565
Assisted Living	192	221	157	167
Molina	1,204	1,299	1,505	1,489
Anthem			796	830
Buckeye			8	9
CareSource			506	514
Aetna	1,608	1,562	0	0

Quarter-End Census, New Enrollments, and Disenrollments

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Quarter-End Census	3,923	3,992	3,983	3,971
New Enrollments	387	376	352	328
Disenrollments	313	339	377	367

Disenrollment Outcomes

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Client Entering Inpatient Hospice	0	0	0	1
Client Refused/Declined Services	35	40	47	58
Deceased	79	89	112	97
Dissatisfied with Svc/Program	1	2	1	2
Entered Nursing Facility	48	23	43	30
Moved or No Longer Eligible	33	23	23	20
Need Otherwise Met	72	95	109	98
Transferred to PSP/Other Program	44	64	41	55
All Other Reasons Not Listed	1	3	2	6
Total	**313**	**339**	**377**	**367**

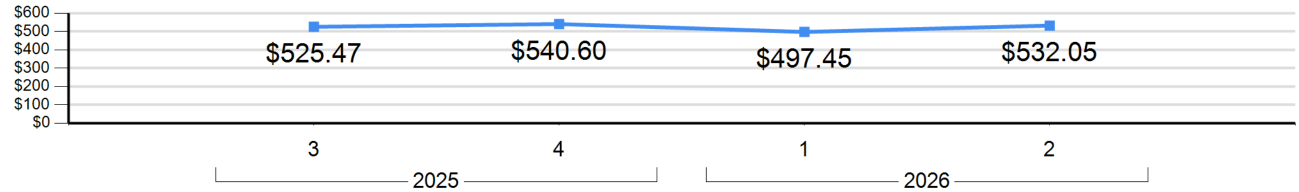


Hamilton County ESP

Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)

TRADITIONAL ESP SERVICE TRENDS

Average Monthly Cost per Client



Distinct Clients Served by Service Group[1]

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Adult Day Service	50	52	61	57
Consumer Directed Care	355	344	408	399
Electronic Monitoring Systems	1,956	1,906	1,920	1,956
Home Care Assistance	1,849	1,897	1,948	1,986
Home Delivered Meals	2,325	2,297	2,260	2,267
Home Medical Equipment	113	96	101	82
Home Modification	40	39	28	28
Laundry Service	130	127	125	136
Other Services	106	105	118	115
Transportation	612	588	578	585
All Services (Unduplicated)	**3,954**	**3,996**	**3,994**	**4,007**

Units Billed by Service Group *Please see the notes page for unit of measure descriptions by service.*

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Adult Day Service	1,055	1,075	978	989
Consumer Directed Care	27,350	24,540	22,698	22,810
Electronic Monitoring Systems	5,524	5,382	5,337	5,485
Home Care Assistance	67,426	66,822	65,304	69,678
Home Delivered Meals	159,611	164,313	152,933	155,451
Home Medical Equipment	144	125	136	112
Home Modification	45	43	32	33
Laundry Service	962	1,001	978	1,159
Other Services	1,289	1,125	1,133	1,183
Transportation	7,558	7,036	6,450	6,599

Dollars Paid by Service Group (Purchased Services)

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Adult Day Service	$112,926	$110,764	$93,953	$94,956
Consumer Directed Care	$531,099	$540,100	$423,765	$459,763
Electronic Monitoring	$106,185	$104,255	$104,850	$110,220
Home Care Assistance	$1,789,363	$1,843,162	$1,784,868	$1,928,445
Home Delivered Meals	$1,457,668	$1,541,327	$1,430,759	$1,460,514
Home Medical Equipment	$34,118	$19,931	$29,735	$30,203
Home Modification	$25,653	$53,825	$24,915	$37,016
Laundry Service	$54,185	$55,132	$54,552	$63,233
Other Services	$118,113	$105,735	$110,810	$120,868
Transportation	$330,983	$304,195	$274,307	$288,248
All Services	**$4,560,293**	**$4,678,425**	**$4,332,515**	**$4,593,466**

Respite Services are included in Other Services. In Q2 2026, eight clients received fifty-two nights of overnight care totaling $14,918, compared with thirteen clients who received eighty-seven nights totaling $27,501 in Q1. Q4: Ten clients were served, totaling $19,100. Q3: Nine clients were served at a cost of $38,584.

Hamilton County ESP FTH
Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)
FAST TRACK HOME CENSUS TRENDS

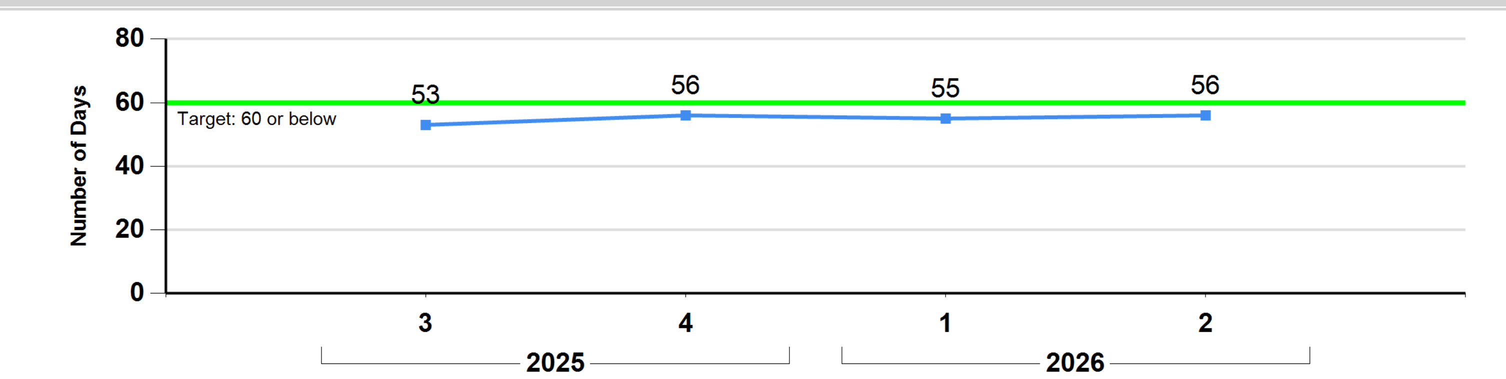
Total Clients Served, New Enrollments, Disenrollments

	2025		2026	
	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
New Enrollments	333	320	328	346
Disenrollments	357	332	302	364
Clients Transferred to ESP	146	150	138	149
	40.90%	45.18%	45.70%	40.93%

Enrollment by Setting

	2025		2026	
Enrollment Setting	**Quarter 3**	**Quarter 4**	**Quarter 1**	**Quarter 2**
Skilled Nursing Facility Enrollment	108	81	86	122
Community Enrollment	45	85	51	52
Hospital Enrollment	163	134	173	152
Spousal Meals	10	12	9	14
Not Captured	7	8	9	6
Total	**333**	**320**	**328**	**346**

Average Length of Stay



Hamilton County ESP FTH
Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)
FAST TRACK HOME SERVICE TRENDS

Distinct Clients Served by Service Group

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Electronic Monitoring Systems	158	131	127	171
Home Care Assistance	202	206	196	255
Home Delivered Meals	253	246	245	272
Home Medical Equipment	124	131	121	147
Home Modification	67	63	58	73
Independent Living	0	1	0	1
Laundry Service	11	6	6	11
Transportation	54	53	43	51
All Services (Unduplicated)	**423**	**411**	**399**	**446**

Units Billed by Service Group *Reference: Please see page 9 for unit of measure descriptions by service.*

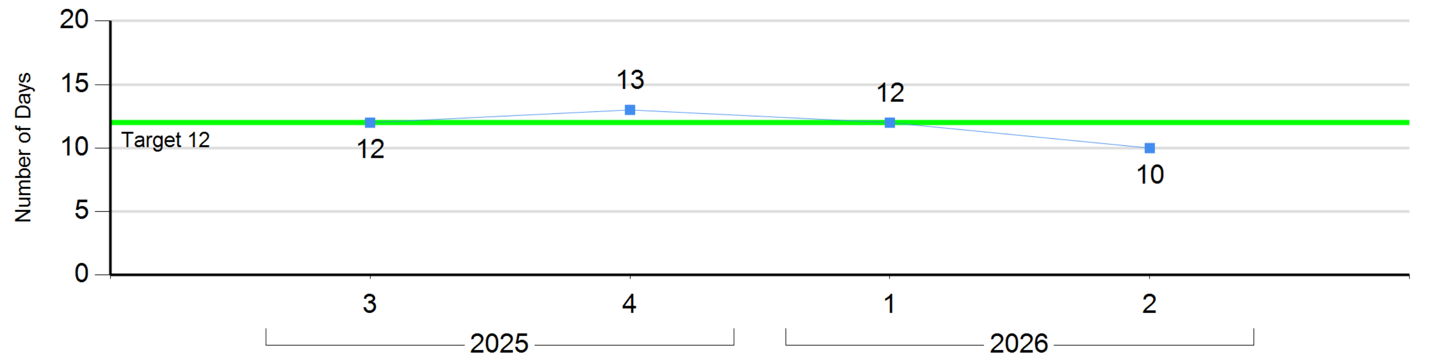
Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Electronic Monitoring Systems	239	181	179	251
Home Care Assistance	2,283	2,184	1,668	2,703
Home Delivered Meals	7,209	7,492	5,947	7,766
Home Medical Equipment	241	234	223	238
Home Modification	69	67	63	82
Independent Living	0	4	0	5
Laundry Service	24	31	32	33
Transportation	223	258	171	205

Dollars Paid by Service Group (Purchased Services)

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Electronic Monitoring Systems	$4,991	$3,727	$3,612	$4,936
Home Care Assistance	$59,660	$60,939	$46,473	$75,763
Home Delivered Meals	$65,811	$69,958	$55,620	$72,616
Home Medical Equipment	$20,527	$19,362	$20,644	$19,580
Home Modification	$31,576	$32,134	$30,621	$35,660
Independent Living	$0	$406	$0	$568
Laundry Service	$1,255	$1,415	$1,988	$1,780
Transportation	$12,599	$15,809	$10,899	$14,493
All Services	**$196,419**	**$203,749**	**$169,857**	**$225,396**

Hamilton County ESP
Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)
Traditional ESP PERFORMANCE TRENDS

Average Number of Days from Intake Call to the Enrollment Assessment[1]



Home Care Provider Network Referrals and Capacity

Year	Quarter	#Clients in Need of HCA & CDC or AddnAide	#Clients Not Matched with a Provider	% of Clients Not Matched with a Provider	% of Clts Receiving Traditional HCA	% of Clts Receiving CDC or AddnAide
2025	3	3,039	47	1%	80%	19%
2025	4	2,830	70	3%	76%	21%
2026	1	2,871	41	1%	77%	22%
2026	2	3,013	58	2%	78%	20%

Home Delivered Meals - Client Satisfaction Survey Results

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	3	4	1	2
Overall Satisfaction	98.79%	99.23%	98.88%	98.96%
Good Choice of Meals Available	97.11%	98.64%	97.08%	97.47%
Distinct Clients Surveyed	650	586	609	475

Medical Transportation - Client Satisfaction Survey Results

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	3	4	1	2
Overall Satisfaction	100.00%	96.35%	96.62%	98.58%
Service Returns Client Home Promptly	100.00%	89.33%	99.03%	98.82%
Distinct Clients Surveyed	30	64	53	43

Home Care Assistance - Client Satisfaction Survey Results

Year	2025		2026	
Quarter	3	4	1	2
Overall Satisfaction	95.40%	96.47%	96.17%	95.50%
Aide is Dependable	93.09%	94.88%	92.87%	93.97%
Distinct Clients Surveyed	661	608	677	595

1 Beginning in 04 2025, the measure for days taken to complete the initial assessment has been reconfigured. All previously reported data has been recalculated using the new scoring method to ensure consistency across reporting periods.

Referrals				
Year	**2025**	**2025**	**2026**	**2026**
Quarter	**Q3**	**Q4**	**Q1**	**Q2**
Number of Members Assisted	34	14	23	19
Over the Counter (OTC)	32	14	21	17

Number of Qualified Customers to Receive Service through Insurance				
Year	**2025**	**2025**	**2026**	**2026**
Quarter	**Q3**	**Q4**	**Q1**	**Q2**
Emergency Response Service	14	1	0	1
Medical Transportation (Estimated Average)	21	4	23	20

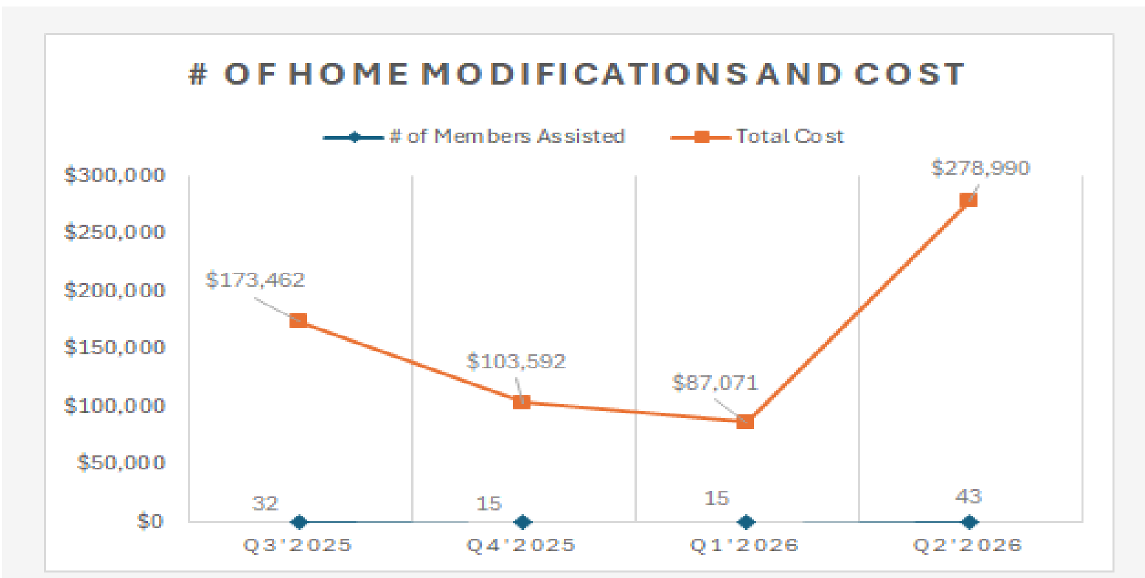
Total Cost Savings by Quarter				
Quarter _ Year	**Q3_2025**	**Q4_2025**	**Q1_2026**	**Q2_2026**
Total Cost Savings(as of qtr. end date)	$10,772	$1,552	$7,198	$6,559

Total Annual Cost Savings	2025	2026
	$40,127	**$13,757**

Steps to Stability Clients Served and Cost

Home Modification

Year	2025	2025	2026	2026
Quarter	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Number of Members Assisted	32	15	15	43
Total Cost	$173,462	$103,592	$87,071	$278,990



Duke Energy - Electric and Gas Utility Credits *

Year	2025	2025	2026	2026
Quarter	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Number of Members Assisted	0	0	0	623
Total Cost	$0	$0	$0	$160,000

* The Duke Energy Utility Credit Assistance Program ended in Q3 2025 after all available funds were exhausted.

** Duke Energy Utility Credit Assistance Program reopened on May 27, 2026 (Q2 2026).

Hamilton County ESP
Quarter 2, 2026 (April - June 2026)
FINANCIALS: Based on Actual and Projected Revenue & Expenses as of June 30, 2026

		Annual Projected	Annual Budget	Budget Variance	Percent Budget Variance
Revenue					
Tax Levy Appropriations		$29,308,690	$30,468,263	($1,159,573)	-3.8%
Federal and State Funding					
Title III B - Supportive Services		$8,902	$81,872	($72,970)	-89.1%
Title III C2 - Home Delivered Meals		110,465	382,740	(272,275)	-71.1%
Title III E - Caregiver Support		86,579	111,608	(25,029)	-22.4%
Alzheimer's		8,932	2,261	6,671	295.1%
Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)		56,819	250,897	(194,078)	-77.4%
Senior Community Services		89,122	109,905	(20,782)	-18.9%
Other Federal (ARPA HC Utilities)		673,985	0	673,985	100.0%
Client Contributions					
Client Donations		3,275	2,909	366	12.6%
Client Cost-share		341,505	417,191	(75,687)	-18.1%
Total Revenue		**$30,688,274**	**$31,827,646**	**($1,139,372)**	**-3.6%**
Expenses					
Operating Expenses					
Administrative		$1,869,942	$1,939,481	$69,539	3.6%
Intake & Assessment		459,796	405,843	(53,953)	-13.3%
Fast Track Home Case Management		1,882,970	1,474,500	(408,469)	-27.7%
Case Management		4,677,651	4,663,209	(14,442)	-0.3%
Total Operating Expenses		**$8,890,358**	**$8,483,033**	**($407,325)**	**-4.8%**
Purchased Services					
Home Care Assistance		$7,785,491	$8,262,503	$477,011	5.8%
Respite Services		60,851	60,000	(851)	-1.4%
Consumer Directed Care		1,870,961	2,518,286	647,325	25.7%
Laundry Service		232,086	275,630	43,544	15.8%
Independent Living		247,076	234,440	(12,637)	-5.4%
Minor Home Modification		270,835	254,163	(16,672)	-6.6%
Pest Control		34,779	13,396	(21,383)	-159.6%
Major House Cleaning		18,700	7,000	(11,700)	-167.1%
Home Medical Equipment		213,577	245,404	31,827	13.0%
Emergency Response Systems		457,422	473,985	16,562	3.5%
Home Delivered Meals		6,116,287	7,031,630	915,342	13.0%
Adult Day Service		441,276	589,960	148,684	25.2%
Adult Day Transportation		77,785	92,938	15,153	16.3%
Medical Transportation		891,802	1,195,565	303,763	25.4%
Non-Medical Transportation		306,546	355,353	48,807	13.7%
Behavioral Health Services		114,024	0	(114,024)	100.0%
Transportation Coordination		384,432	282,693	(101,739)	-36.0%
Steps to Stability		1,923,985	1,151,670	(772,316)	-67.1%
Senior Homeless Medical		300,000	250,000	(50,000)	-20.0%
Guardian Gap Program		50,000	50,000	0	0.0%
Gross Purchased Services		**$21,797,915**	**$23,344,613**	**$1,546,697**	**6.6%**
Gross Program Expenses		**$30,688,274**	**$31,827,646**	**$1,139,372**	**3.6%**
Client Census	*	**4,223**	**4,598**	**375**	**8.2%**
Cost of Services per Client		**$378.10**	**$403.70**	**$25.61**	**6.3%**

*Projected year end census

1. Census Trends

A. Quarter-End Census by Program is a client count based on a one-day snapshot of clients with a status of 'Enrolled' or 'Suspended' on the last day of the quarter. It is used as an approximation of how many clients are being served on any given day.

1. The Service Trends section shows the client count based on billing data. This shows the number of clients whom services were delivered and invoiced. Given these differences, the quarter-end census and the client count for all services will not match.

B. New Enrollments are calculated by taking the total number of clients who have an enrollment date during the quarter and an approved care plan.

C. Disenrollment Outcomes

1. All Other Reasons Not Listed includes: Dissatisfied with Service/Program, Refused Cost, Share/Verification, Health/Safety, and Unable to Meet Client Need.
2. Client Non-Compliant includes: Declined Call/Visit, Delinquent Balance, Refused, Transfer to Passport/Other Program and Unable to Contact.
3. Adding the difference between *New Enrollments* and *Disenrollments* in a given quarter to the previous *Quarter-end Census* may result in a discrepency due to the timing of census reporting and back dating client enrollments and disenrollments.

2. Service Trends

A. Average Monthly Cost per Client is based on the average monthly cost of Intake and Assessment, Administration, Care Management and Provider Services divided by the quarter-end census.

B. Clients Served by Service Group is based on billing data. These numbers represent the unduplicated client counts within each service group and overall. The All Services client count will not equal the sum of the service group subtotals because many clients receive more than one service.

C. Home Care includes homemaking, personal care, companion, and respite services.

D. Other Services includes Environmental Services, Adult Day Transportation, Independent Living Assistance Caregiver-Respite and Behavioral Health Services.

E. Dollars Paid by Service Group represents the total from the financial system. Clients Served and Units Billed represent when service was provided, dollars paid represents when services were paid.

3. FTH Census Trends

A. Clients Enrolled in ESP is calculated by taking the clients who disenrolled from Fast Track Home within the quarter then determining the clients who have an active registration with the traditional ESP.

B. Community Enrollment may include emergency referrals to ESP FastTrack service such as: Community Paramedicine, APS referral or other agency referral for FTH specific services.

4. FTH Service Trends

A. Other Services includes Pest Control.

5. Unit of Measure Descriptions by Service

A. Adult Day - Number of Days
B. Consumer Directed Care - Number of Hours
C. Electronic Monitoring - Number of Months
D. Home Care - Number of Hours
E. Home Delivered Meals - Number of Meals
F. Medical Transportation - Number of Trips

6. N/A: This is displayed on a case-by-case basis, but is most frequently related to a rate or unit change. The metric should display data in subsequent quarters after the change has taken effect.

7. Benefit Cost Savings:
OTC Medicare cards help cover the cost of over-the-counter drugs for seniors enrolled in certain Medicare Advantage plans. Not every Medicare Advantage plan offers this benefit, and limitations vary between the plans that do.

Hamilton County Program Update Report

September 2026

Adult Day Services (ADS)

360 Total Care self-terminated ESP contract effective 6/15/26
Northwest Adult Services is on hold for new referrals effective 3/25/26 due to ownership change.

Emergency Monitoring Systems (EMS)

No change since the last report.

Environmental (ENVIR)

No change since the last report.

Home Care Assistance (HCA)

COA has terminated the ESP contracts for Quality Care and Comfort & Care Home Health Agency. Both of these agencies are under the same ownership. These terminations were due to a contract violation. All clients have been transitioned to other eligible HCA providers.

Western Hills Home Care ESP contract was terminated on 8/31/26. This was due to a contract violation. All clients were transitioned to new providers by 9/1/26.

Request for Proposal (RFP) awards have been sent regarding new HCA contracts which will be in effect 10/1/26. Please see the 2026 RFP Awarded Services grid below showing a breakdown of awarded businesses by service.

Home Delivered Meals (HDM)

No change since the last report.

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

Hamilton County was awarded $26,050 to provide $50 benefits to 281 recipients. As of September 4, 2026 recipients have redeemed $7,668.02 of the total funding, representing approximately 29% of the award. Outreach efforts to recipients who have not used any of their benefits include emails, phone calls, mailed letters, and contact from a Care Manager for recipients who are Council on Aging clients. The email outreach also includes a survey designed to identify barriers that may be affecting benefit redemption. The program ends on November 30, 2026; however, most markets close in September.

Home Medical Equipment (HME)

Janz Medical Supply lowered its Home Medical Equipment rates to remain competitive. The proposed rates were approved, resulting in substantial county savings—for example, 60.3% on a rollator walker and 63.6% on a bariatric 3-in-1 commode. The new rates take effect October 1, 2026.

Janz Medical Supply has a new President. A meeting was held on August 14th to meet the new staff. The new staff members will receive training and education. We will also share best practices on delivering the best quality of service for the clients.

Independent Living Assistance (ILA)

No change since last report

Medical Recovery and Extended Care Services (MRECS)

No change since last report

Minor Home Modifications and Repairs (MHM)

No change since last report

home52 Transportation Coordination

Request for Proposal (RFP) awards have been sent regarding new home52 Transportation contracts which will be in effect 10/1/26. Please see the 2026 RFP Awarded Services grid below showing a breakdown of awarded businesses by service.

2026 Request for Proposals (RFP) Awarded Services in Hamilton County

Providers in **bold** must first successfully complete a pre-certification review and CareDirector and/or home52 system training with our Business Relations team to ensure they can meet program requirements before being activated for service referrals.

ESP Home Care Assistance (HCA)

A Miracle Home Care Co.	**Addus HealthCare, Inc. dba Arcadia Home Care & Staffing**	Always There Healthcare, LLC dba Always There Homecare	Amaramedical Health Care Services
AnswerCare LLC dba Help at Home	Day Share Ltd.	Eastern Personnel Services, Inc.	Extended Family Home Health Services, LLC
First Community Health Services, LLC	Hillebrand Home Health	Interim HomeStyles of Greater Cincinnati, Inc. dba Interim HealthCare	**Jewish Family Service**
LCD Agency Services	LHC Group Inc. dba Assisted Care by Black Stone	**Morris Helping Hands, LLC**	Nova Home Care Co.

Prime Home Care, LLC dba Help at Home	James Annalee, Inc. dba Right at Home	SH of Southern Ohio, LLC dba Senior Helpers of Greater Cincinnati	Superior Home Care, Inc.
Vigma Enterprises, LLC dba Soothing Heart's Home Health Care			

FastTrack Home (FTH) Home Care Assistance (HCA)

A Miracle Home Care Co.	**Addus HealthCare, Inc. dba Arcadia Home Care & Staffing**	Always There Healthcare, LLC dba Always There Homecare	Amaramedical Health Care Services
Day Share Ltd.	Eastern Personnel Services, Inc.	First Community Health Services, LLC	Hillebrand Home Health
Interim HomeStyles of Greater Cincinnati, Inc. dba Interim HealthCare	LCD Agency Services	LHC Group Inc. dba Assisted Care by Black Stone	**Morris Helping Hands, LLC**
Nova Home Care Co.	James Annalee, Inc. dba Right at Home	SH of Southern Ohio, LLC dba Senior Helpers of Greater Cincinnati	**Vigma Enterprises, LLC dba Soothing Heart's Home Health Care**

home52 Transportation

A-List Transportation Agency	Aleph Transit LLC (fka Bethesda Medical Transportation)	Cincinnati Medical Transport
Elite Xpress Transportation LLC	I Care Transportation LLC	LCD Agency Services
MedaCare Transportation Inc.	**R Chappell Transportation**	**Restoration Adult Day Services LLC**
Shaddai Transportation LLC	**Swifttransit Solutions LLC**	UP and Walk Transportation LLC
Wesley Community Service LLC dba Meals on Wheels of SW OH & N KY	**Valley Transport LLC**	**Vigma Enterprises, LLC dba Soothing Heart's Home Health Care**

Maximum Reimbursement Rates for Hamilton County effective 10/1/26 – 9/30/27

Service	Max Rate	Unit of Measure
Adult Day Service - Transportation	$ 47.40	One Way Trip
Adult Day Service	$ 61.01	Per 1/2 Day
Consumer Directed Care	$ 3.75	Per 15 Min
Electronic Monitoring System (Med Dispenser)	$ 20.00	Per 1/2 Month
Home Delivered Meals (Mechanically Altered)	$ 14.03	Per Meal
Home Medical Equipment (Electric Hospital Bed)	$ 2,495.00	Per Unit
Home Care Assistance (FastTrack Home)	$ 8.44	Per 15 Min
Independent Living Assistance	$ 36.25	Per 15 Min

2026 Provider Monitoring Schedule

HAMILTON COUNTY ESP PROVIDER MONITORING SCHEDULE (Please find below the list of Hamilton County Providers of ESP Services and the tentative dates for annual review for 2026.)		
Hamilton County ESP Providers	Review Type	Review Tentative Date
101 Mobility	Bi-Ennial	9/9/2026
A Best Home Care	Annual	9/15/2026
A Miracle Home Care	Annual	8/20/2026
Premier Transportation	Annual	4/21/2026
Active Day Cincinnati	Annual	1/22/2026
Always There Healthcare	Annual	5/13/2026
Lincoln Heights Outreach	Annual	8/20/2026
Amaramedical Health Care Services	Annual	1/12/2027
AnswerCare – Help at Home	Annual	7/8/2026
Elite Xpress Transportation LLC	Annual	11/2/2026
Arrow Heating, Cooling, and Home Maintenance	Annual	10/26/2026
Bayley Adult Day	Annual	8/21/2026
Bernens Medical Pharmacy	Bi-Ennial	11/29/2027
Comfort and Care Home Health Agency	Annual	9/4/2026
Custom Home Elevator	Bi-Ennial	7/29/2027
Guardian Medical Monitoring	Bi-Ennial	11/22/2027
Help at Home – Prime Home Care	Annual	1/13/2027
Home Care by Blackstone	Annual	2/16/2027
Bethesda Medical Transportation	Annual	9/23/2026
Home First Non-Medical	Bi-Ennial	11/29/2027

Interim HomeStyles of Greater Cincinnati	Annual	8/20/2026
Janz Medical Supplies	Annual	10/7/2026
Jewish Family Services	Annual	3/11/2026
LCD Home Health Agency	Annual	7/13/2026
Superior Home Care	Annual	4/23/2026
Meda-Care Transportation	Bi-Ennial	7/16/2026
MedAdapt Ltd.	Bi-Ennial	5/19/2027
Milt’s Termite and Pest Control	Bi-Ennial	7/12/2027
Northwest Adult Day	Annual	10/20/2026
Mayerson Jewish Community Center	Annual	3/19/2026
I Care Transportation LLC	Annual	8/29/2026
Nova Home Care	Annual	10/2/2026
Day Share Senior Services	Annual	12/2/2026
Partners in Prime	Annual	6/10/2026
PWC – People Working Cooperatively	Annual	5/3/2027
Deupree Community Meals on Wheels	Annual	5/6/2026
Western Hills Home Care	Annual	6/18/2026
Senior Helpers of Southern Ohio	Annual	8/20/2026
The Center for Respite Care	Annual	7/9/2026
Shaddai Transportation	Annual	7/22/2026
Hillebrand Home Health	Annual	7/21/2026
Stateline Medical Equipment	Bi-Ennial	5/27/2026
T and R Transportation	Annual	4/29/2026
Traveling Seniors Transportation	Bi-Ennial	10/13/2026
Quality Care	Annual	9/4/2026
Valley Transport	Bi-Ennial	7/22/2026

Tri-State Maintenance	Bi-Ennial	6/4/2026
Eastern Personnel Services	Annual	10/21/2026
Up and Walk Transportation	Annual	5/27/2026
Restoration Adult Day Services	Annual	10/26/2026
A-List Cleaning and Transportation	Bi-Ennial	8/20/2026
Cincinnati Medical Transport	Bi-Ennial	5/10/2026
Timmons Tender Care	Annual	Self Term
Margaret's Hearts Adult Day	Annual	12/24/2026
Vebcom Adult Day	Annual	7/10/2026
Wesley Community Services	Annual	3/12/2026
Kemper Shuttle	Bi-Ennial	12/28/2026
Ny's Transportation	Bi-Ennial	1/13/2027

Proposed 2026 Request for Proposals (RFP) Schedule

COA is publishing the following RFPs during 2026:

- RFP 003-26: home52 Transportation Services was posted 4/15/26, with proposals to be submitted by Noon on 5/27/26. Proposals went through the RFP evaluation process, and awards for services starting 10/1/26 have gone out.

- RFP 002-26: ESP/FTH Home Care Assistance Services was posted 4/15/26, with proposals to be submitted by Noon on 5/27/26. Proposals went through the RFP evaluation process, and awards for services starting 10/1/26 have gone out.

We will continue to monitor client service needs as the year progresses to determine if any additional RFPs need to be published this year.

The RFP evaluations will have 3 categories:

- **Financial Analysis and Stability:** Proposals will be scored on their agency's demonstration of financial stability.

- **The Organization and Capabilities Overview:** Focus will include- emergency preparedness, quality improvement and service delivery to meet the changing needs of older adults. Proposals demonstrating a county presence will receive additional scoring.

- **Pricing:** Does the Proposal demonstrate competitive pricing with respect to other proposals received?

Virtual Meeting Policy

Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council

INTRODUCTION

Ohio Revised Code Section 121.221 allows certain public bodies to adopt a policy that permits members to attend and hold meetings virtually. This document is the Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council's virtual meeting policy under R.C. 121.221(B)(3). It explains the procedures and requirements for holding virtual meetings.

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, the following terms have the meanings listed below:

"Virtual Meeting" means a formal meeting of the Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council that is held fully or partly by video conference or similar electronic technology.

"Nonroutine Expenditure" means any significant cost or expense that is not part of the regular, ongoing operating expenses of ESP or the Senior Services Levy and that has not been previously budgeted by the Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council and/or Board of County Commissioners.

POLICY

Section 1. Calling a Virtual Meeting

To call a Virtual Meeting, the Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council must follow the notice requirements in Section 2. Members may inform the Chair or designated COA representative that they intend to attend virtually no later than forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting, except in an emergency. An emergency includes, but is not limited to, a medical or family emergency, natural disaster, or an unavoidable or unexpected personal or business conflict that prevents a member from attending in person. The Chair or designated COA representative may decide whether other circumstances qualify as an emergency under this provision.

The Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council intends to hold all meetings in person unless a member needs to attend virtually, or circumstances warrant a virtual meeting. Virtual Meetings may not be held, and members may not attend virtually, when any of the following matters are being considered:

- Nonroutine Expenditure; or
- Proposing or voting on a tax, levy issue, or increase recommendation

Section 2. Notice of Virtual Meetings

Meeting schedules, documents, agendas, locations, and virtual access information must be posted on COA's website at least seventy-two (72) hours before the meeting for members of the public who wish to participate. In an emergency, notice must be provided as soon as reasonably feasible.

Section 3. Public Access to Virtual Meetings

If a Virtual Meeting is called, the public must have access to the meeting. Council on Aging (COA) must provide a public link or access code so the public may attend or otherwise access the Virtual Meeting. The public must be able to observe and hear the members' discussion and deliberations, whether members participate in person or electronically.

Section 4. Virtual Meeting Roll Call Vote

All votes taken during a Virtual Meeting must be by roll call vote unless there is a motion for unanimous consent. If there are no objections to the motion and the vote is unanimous, the meeting minutes must reflect how members voted, including any abstentions.

Section 5. Application of Law

This policy does not limit the Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council's obligation to comply with the Open Meetings Act, including R.C. 121.22 and R.C. 121.221. The Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council may amend this policy at any time.

Section 6. Effective Date and Revisions

Effective Date: 11/1/2026

Approved by the Hamilton County ESP Advisory Council on: [Date]

Veteran Directed Care Program Advisory Board Update

Program Overview

Veteran Directed Care (VDC) is modeled after self-directed programs, a method of providing long-term services and supports (LTSS) in which individuals determine the services they receive. This includes hiring their own workers and purchasing goods and services from a pre-determined budget and spending plan. The individual receiving the services, or their authorized representative, is the employer of the workers providing services to the individual.

Currently COA has a contract with the Cincinnati Veteran Administration as direct VDC provider. COA has executed a contract with Pennyrile Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living under the Super HUB/SPOKE Model which allows Council on Aging to expand to all counties in our service region. This program is a cost savings to the county and for Elderly Services Program as individuals eligible can receive these services through the VDC program vs. utilizing local levy dollars.

Eligibility Criteria

All Veterans enrolled in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) health care system. VA determines eligibility for the program. VA defines eligibility nursing home level of care program as demonstrated by one or more of the following:

1. The Veteran needs assistance in two or more ADL's
2. The veteran has significant cognitive impairment as evidenced by a deficit in executive decision making or memory.
3. The veteran needs personal care services as adjunct care to community hospice services.
4. The veteran does not strictly meet the criteria outlined above but is determined by the veteran's clinical care team to need these services and the clinical justification is documented in the electronic health record.

COA's Role

COA provides care management to the veteran's which includes monthly phone calls and quarterly home visits. COA ensures that the veterans are receiving the care according to the spending plan and budget allocated by the VA.

Hamilton County Enrollment

As of 8.31.26, currently we have twenty-five enrolled veterans in the program that live in Hamilton County.

Hamilton County Elderly Services Program
Draft Budget
January 1, 2027 - December 31, 2027

	2027 Proposed Budget	2026 Budget	2026 Projected	% Change: 2027 Budget to 2026 Projected	% Change: 2027 Budget to 2026 Budget
Revenue					
Hamilton County Levy					
Levy Appropriations	$ 31,221,245	$ 30,468,263	$ 29,308,690	6.5%	2.5%
Total County Levy Funding	31,221,245	30,468,263	29,308,690	6.5%	2.5%
Client Cost-share	354,730	417,191	341,505	3.9%	-15.0%
Client Donations	3,360	2,909	3,275	2.6%	15.5%
Total Title III, State and Federal Funding (incl.ARPA)	1,471,482	939,282	1,034,804	42.2%	9.2%
Total Revenue	**$ 33,050,817**	**$ 31,827,646**	**$ 30,688,274**	7.7%	3.8%
Expenses					
Client Services					
Intake & Assessment *	$ 493,229	$ 405,843	$ 459,796	7.3%	21.5%
FTH Case Management *	2,020,087	1,474,500	1,882,970	7.3%	37.0%
Care Management *	5,011,740	4,663,209	4,677,651	7.1%	7.5%
Provider Services *	21,292,425	21,892,943	19,523,930	9.1%	-2.7%
Steps to Stabillity	1,916,149	1,151,670	1,923,985	-0.4%	66.4%
Medical Recovery and Extended Care Program	250,000	250,000	300,000	-16.7%	0.0%
Guardianship Gap Program	50,000	50,000	50,000		0.0%
Total Client Services	31,033,631	29,888,165	28,818,332	7.7%	3.8%
COA Administration	2,017,186	1,939,481	1,869,942	7.9%	4.0%
Total Expenses	**$ 33,050,817**	**$ 31,827,646**	**$ 30,688,274**	7.7%	3.8%

Average Daily Census for 2027 is increasing by 1.7% from 2026 year end Projections

*** A 2% contingency is added to accounts for deviations in client enrollment and cost assumptions.**

Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio
4601 Malsbary Rd
Blue Ash, Ohio 45242
(513) 721-1025
(800) 252-0155
www.help4seniors.org

Draft Budget Highlights
For the Hamilton County Elderly Services Program
For the Program Year January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027

Budget Highlights:
The 2027 budget increases levy appropriations by $1,912,555, or 6.5%, over 2026 projections. This increase aligns with the contracted budget and supports outreach and services for older adults in Hamilton County. The 2027 census is expected to increase to 4,293 clients by the end of the year with an estimated total of 8,223 clients served in 2027. The budget also reflects the continued level of spending for Steps to Stability to meet the ongoing need for utilities and home modifications assistance in the county.

Client Census:
- Program year 2026 – We are projecting to end the program year with a census of 4,223 clients (Fast Track 210 clients and Traditional ESP 4,013 clients). This represents a net increase in growth of 49 clients, or 1.2% compared to program year 2025. We estimate the total number of clients served during the year to be 8,484.
- Program year 2027 – We are expecting to end the year with a census of 4,293 clients (Fast Track 220 clients and Traditional ESP 4,073 clients). This represents a net increase in growth of 70 clients, or 1.7%. The total number of clients served during the year is estimated to be 8,223.

Tax Levy Revenue:
- The amount of Tax levy money needed in 2027 is $31.2 million, which is an increase of $1,912,555, or 6.5% when compared to 2026 projected spending.

Client Cost-share:
- The Client Cost-share is projected to be $354,730 in 2027, which represents growth of $13,226, or 3.9% as compared to the 2026 projection.

Client Donations:
- Donations are collected for home delivered meals. Donations are budgeted to be $3,360 in 2026. This is an increase of $85 from 2026 projections.

Title III, State and Federal Funding:
- Traditional Title III Funding is expected to remain at last year's award amounts. A large portion of 2026 TIII funding was shifted to 2025 to offset increased expenses during managed enrollment, and a smaller portion of 2026 funding will be shifted to 2027 to be used to offset levy expenses. The additional funding for ARPA HC Utilities concludes in 2026. Due to these shifts, the total Title III, State and Federal Funding available in 2027 will be increasing by $436,679 (42.2%) as compared to the projected funds available in 2026.

Provider Services:
- The provider services budget assumes no changes to the current service package. Transportation Coordination is included within Provider Services rather than budgeted separately. Compared with current spending projections, the 2027 budget increases by $1,768,495, or 9.1%.

Intake & Assessment:
- Spending is projected to be $493,229 in 2027, which is an increase of $33,433, or 7.3% from 2026 projected spending. This increase reflects staffing changes required to support the program.

Case Management:
- Case management spending is budgeted at $5,011,740 for 2027, an increase of $334,089 or 7.1%, over projected 2026 spending. The budget reflects the staffing needed to support the projected 2027 client population.

Fast Track Home Case Management:

- Spending is projected at $2,020,087 in 2027, an increase of $137,118, or 7.3%, over projected 2026 spending. The increase reflects staffing changes made in 2026 to support care transitions and the projected census growth in 2027.

Steps to Stability:

- Steps to Stability addresses the short-term needs of older adults by providing home modification and utility assistance in Hamilton County. The 2027 budget is $1.9 million, a 0.4% decrease from projected 2026 spending, and assumes no additional ARPA funding for utility assistance.

Guardianship Gap Program:

- The Guardianship Gap Program is a Hamilton County collaboration to provide guardianship to older adults who do not have the capacity to make their own decisions and do not have an available family member. We are budgeting $50,000 in 2027, which is consistent with the 2026 estimated spending.

Medical Recovery and Extended Care Services (Senior Homeless Medical):

- Medical Recovery and Extended Care Services (Senior Homeless Medical) provides short-term, medically monitored settings where unhoused older adults can rest, recover, and receive care after hospital discharge. The 2027 budget is $250,000, which is $50,000 below the 2026 projected spending of $300,000. The 2026 projection includes an additional $50,000 in funding to support the program.

COA Administration:

- Budget amount is based on a 6.5% rate in our contract with Hamilton County and is based on all services.