

The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem
The Shepherd's Center of Kernersville – Combined Funding Request

May 23, 2016

First, let me say thank you for your valuable support this past fiscal year. Your decision to include us in the current year's budget has paid significant dividends.

Each year volunteers from both agencies devote in excess of **45,000** hours of service, saving our local government and the community over **\$970,000** in cost for the services provided.

The SCGWS serves as the coordinating site for the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program for the county. According to the NC Department of Insurance, the cost savings for Medicare beneficiaries reported for Forsyth County last year was **\$405,518! Combined nearly \$1.5 million in savings!!**

As you know, the Shepherd's Centers of Greater Winston-Salem and Kernersville are both certified Senior Centers of Excellence by the N.C. State Division of Aging and Adult Services and your support is essential to our work in serving older adults throughout Forsyth County.

For the first three quarters of this year, the Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem served over 3,500 older adults.

We have had a 9% increase in requests for services and a 13% increase in older adults served during that period. This was made possible, in part, by the funding that we have received.

The services provided included in excess of 11,000 one-way transportation trips and 510 minor home repairs for those age 60 and over.

Both centers currently serve in excess of 8,000 older adults per year. Our Centers work very collaboratively with Senior Services and other aging services providers in the county with no duplication of services. In fact, it takes the combined resources of all of us and we still cannot meet the growing need in our community.

Health and wellness programs and services provided for active older adults are highly regarded statewide as we have served over **8,000** older adults each year. Over 75 program activities are offered each week in many locations throughout the county. Program attendance currently exceeds **40,000** older adults each year.

The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem and Kernersville have requested \$60,000 in financial support for the older adults of Forsyth County in the 2016 – 2017 county alternate services budget. This would be equivalent to an investment of approximately **\$0.92** per older adult age 60+ currently residing in Forsyth County.

Thank you very much for considering our request.