

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Habersham County Legacy Link, Inc. – Commitment of local funds for fiscal year 2026-2027

DATE: 3.6.2026

(X) RECOMMENDATION

() POLICY DISCUSSION

BUDGET INFORMATION:

() STATUS REPORT

ANNUAL-**16,000**

() OTHER

CAPITAL-

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: March 16, 2026

PURPOSE: To approve FY26-27 Local Share Commitment for Legacy Link, Inc. in the amount of **\$16,000**.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY: For fiscal year 2026-27, Legacy Link, Inc. plans to secure **\$296,221** in federal and state monies for the Habersham County Senior Center for meals on wheels, congregate meals, transportation, center management and services Habersham County's local share match is critical to draw down federal and state monies for continuation of services that help families in our county.

FACTS AND ISSUES:

Habersham County's commitment of **\$16,000** is necessary to secure federal and state monies provided through Legacy Link.

1. Commitment of local funds is requested for fiscal year July 1, 2026 -June 30, 2027.
 2. Funds are critical to draw down the federal and state funds for administration, coordination, information and referral, case management, care giver specialist, employment training of older workers, volunteer programs, and other services.
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OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve request for FY2026 -2027 Local Share Commitment of **\$16,000** for Legacy Link, Inc.
 - 2) Deny request for FY2026-2027 Local Share Commitment of **\$16,000** for Legacy Link, Inc.
 - 3) Other commission defined alternative.
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RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION: Consider approval to commit Fiscal Year 2026-27 funds in the amount of **\$16,000** to Legacy Link, Inc.

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Kathy Holcomb

Director Kathy Holcomb

ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMENTS:_____

_____ DATE:_____

County Manager



February 2, 2026

Honorable Jimmy Tench, Chairman
Habersham County Commission
130 Jacob's Way Suite 301
Clarksville, Georgia 30523

Dear Chairman Tench,

The Legacy Link, Inc., will once again provide state and federal funds to Habersham County for services at your senior center including home delivered meals, congregate meals, transportation, center management and in-home material aide services in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026. We plan to provide \$296,221.00 to Habersham County for these services.

Legacy Link provides the following services in all 13 counties: Information, telephone screening and counseling for families seeking assistance for seniors and persons with disabilities. Georgia SHIP staff and volunteers provide counseling and assist with Medicare, other insurance, fraud, and scam issues. We subcontract with a personal care service agency for homemaker and personal care to help frail older persons remain in their homes and also subcontract for legal services for older individuals in the region.

In addition to the financial services above, Legacy Link has provided the following contributions into Habersham County over the last year: 96 clients were active in our case management programs to help them age in place with a monetary value of \$3,020,992; 7 individuals participated in our Senior Employment program and paid to train at local nonprofits for a total of \$26,073 which had a much larger impact in your community by infusing \$117,345 of value for their time according to the independent sector value of volunteer time; 68 individuals participated in our Senior Farmer's Market and received a \$30 voucher for fresh fruit and vegetables for a total contribution of \$2,040; in addition to many other programs and services offered to the county outlined below.

Legacy Link's nurses and social workers will continue to provide care management in all 13 counties for non-Medicaid and Medicaid-funded health programs to help nursing home eligible persons of all ages with chronic health conditions remain in their homes and communities. The nurses and case managers work with over 1,000 clients and their families to arrange in-home and community health services to avoid premature nursing home placement.

Legacy Link staff will also continue to work with families and nursing home staff and assist residents in moving out of nursing homes and back into the community when feasible.

Additionally, we provide funding for services to help caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. We will continue funding various services designed to help families caring for someone with Alzheimer's in part-time day programs in Dawson, Forsyth, and White Counties. We have a Caregiver Specialist and Dementia Care Specialist on staff to work with families in all counties who have caregiver issues.

The Legacy Link Wellness program for seniors has been highly successful in the region, and the Retired Senior and Volunteer Program (RSVP) has about 200 volunteers aged 50+ who volunteer in their communities.

The Legacy Link Senior Community Service Employment Program assists low-income persons aged 55+ needing employment and training. We pay minimum wage for part-time employment-based training. The participants are helping their communities by training in local non-profits and government organizations while learning workplace skills to obtain unsubsidized employment.

In order to draw down federal and state funds for programs and services as described, we must have local matching funds. These local matching funds from each county government are necessary for us to continue sub-contracting and providing services including administration, information and referral, screening services, and volunteer programs in all counties. We utilize in-kind match as much as possible but need local matching funds revenue to continue our services in the region.

Our local share match request of each county government for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, is \$16,000 this year. Each county government's local share contribution is critical to draw down funds for continuation of services that help families in your county. This amount may be paid in one payment, quarterly, or semi-annually. If you elect a payment option other than a one-time payment, please notify our office.

The commitment page for your signature signifying approval of the request is enclosed. Please sign and return to me so we can continue services offered in your county in the new fiscal year. If you have any questions about services operated or funded by Legacy Link in your county, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We appreciate your support of Legacy Link. Through continued partnership, we can keep improving the quality of life of older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their caregivers in your community.

Sincerely,



Melissa Armstrong, MSW
CEO/ AAA Director
The Legacy Link, Inc.

Enclosure



LOCAL SHARE COMMITMENT LETTER
FY-2027

The FY–2027 local share requested by The Legacy Link, Inc. from each county is \$16,000.00. These funds will be used by the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) as match to draw down the federal and state funding for administration, coordination, information & referral, volunteer program and other services. These funds will also help to continue wellness programs and Medicare prescription assistance in all counties.

The Habersham County Commission hereby approves the services to be offered for older citizens, family members and individuals with disabilities in Habersham County in FY–2027. Habersham County Commission also agrees to pay the necessary local share funds in the amount of \$16,000.00 to secure federal and state funding and continue services as noted above.

Approved: _____ Date: _____
Habersham County Commission Chairman

Please return to: Melissa Armstrong, CEO/ AAA Director
 The Legacy Link, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1480
 Oakwood, Georgia 30566