



CHAPTER 122C
ARTICLE 4 - ORGANIZATION AND SYSTEM FOR DELIVERY OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

N.C.G.S. § 122C-117.

Powers and duties of the area authority.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2023-134, s. 9G.7A(a7) — twenty-seventh act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:21 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 9be8d856db9ca1acd1d34f24 - 05967f89b1db5bfc2ad3791a - df769aa6a66a0e3d
--	---	---	--

- § 122C-117(a) The area authority shall do all of the following:
- (1) Engage in comprehensive planning, budgeting, implementing, and monitoring of community-based mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services.
 - (2) Ensure the provision of services to clients in the catchment area, including clients committed to the custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety.
 - (3) Determine the needs of the area authority's clients and coordinate with the Secretary and with the Division of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety the provision of services to clients through area and State facilities.
 - (4) Develop plans and budgets for the area authority subject to the approval of the Secretary. The area authority shall submit the approved budget to the board of county commissioners and the county manager and provide quarterly reports on the financial status of the program in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.
 - (5) Assure that the services provided by the county through the area authority meet the rules of the Commission and Secretary.
 - (6) Comply with federal requirements as a condition of receipt of federal grants.
 - (7) Appoint an area director in accordance with G.S. 122C-121(d).
 - (8) Repealed by Session Laws 2023-134, s. 9G.7A(a7), effective October 3, 2023.

- (9) Perform public relations and community advocacy functions.
- (10) Recommend to the board of county commissioners the creation of local program services.
- (11) Submit to the Secretary and the board of county commissioners service delivery reports, on a quarterly basis, that assess the quality and availability of public services within the area authority's catchment area. The service delivery reports shall include the types of services delivered, number of recipients served, and services requested but not delivered due to staffing, financial, or other constraints. In addition, at least annually, a progress report shall be submitted to the Secretary and the board of county commissioners. The progress report shall include an assessment of the progress in implementing local service plans, goals, and outcomes. All reports shall be in a format and shall contain any additional information required by the Secretary or board of county commissioners.
- (12) Repealed by Session Laws 2023-134, s. 9G.7A(a7), effective October 3, 2023.
- (13) Coordinate with Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities for the provision of services to criminal justice clients.
- (14) Maintain a 24-hour a day, seven day a week crisis response service. Crisis response shall include telephone and face-to-face capabilities. Crisis phone response shall include triage and referral to appropriate face-to-face crisis providers and shall be initiated within one hour of notification. Crisis services do not require prior authorization but shall be delivered in compliance with appropriate policies and procedures. Crisis services shall be designed for prevention, intervention, and resolution, not merely triage and transfer, and shall be provided in the least restrictive setting possible, consistent with individual and family need and community safety.
- (15) An LME that utilizes single stream funding shall, on a biannual basis, report on the allocation of service dollars and allow for public comment at a regularly scheduled LME board of directors meeting.
- (16) Before an LME proposes to reduce State funding to HUD group homes and HUD apartments below the original appropriation of State funds, the LME must:

a. Receive approval of the reduction in funding from the Department, and

b. Hold a public hearing at an open LME board meeting to receive comment on the reduction in funding.

(17) Have the authority to borrow money with the approval of the Local Government Commission.

(18) Develop and adopt community crisis services plans in accordance with G.S. 122C-202.2.

§ 122C-117(a1) The area authority may contract to provide services to governmental or private entities, including Employee Assistance Programs.

§ 122C-117(b) The governing unit of the area authority is the area board. All powers, duties, functions, rights, privileges, or immunities conferred on the area authority may be exercised by the area board.

§ 122C-117(c) Within 30 days of the end of each quarter of the fiscal year, the area director and finance officer of the area authority shall provide the quarterly report of the area authority to the county finance officer. The county finance officer shall provide the quarterly report to the board of county commissioners at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the board. The clerk of the board of commissioners shall notify the area director and the county finance officer if the quarterly report required by this subsection has not been submitted within the required period of time. This information shall be delivered to the county and, at the request of the board of county commissioners, may be presented in person by the area director or the director's designee.

§ 122C-117(d) A multicounty area authority shall provide to each board of county commissioners of participating counties a copy of the area authority's annual audit. The audit findings shall be presented in a format prescribed by the county and shall be read into the minutes of the meeting at which the audit findings are presented.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
27 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

			
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1971	c. 470, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1973	c. 476, s. 133	AMENDED
03	1973	c. 661	AMENDED
04	1977	c. 568, s. 1	AMENDED
05	1977	c. 679, s. 7	AMENDED
06	1979	c. 358, ss. 1, 3, 14, 23	AMENDED
07	1981	c. 51, s. 3	AMENDED
08	1983	c. 383, s. 1	AMENDED
09	1985	c. 589, s. 2	AMENDED
10	1987	c. 830, s. 47(d)	AMENDED
11	1989	c. 625, s. 14	AMENDED
12	1991	c. 215, s. 1	AMENDED
13	1991	1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 749, s. 2	AMENDED
14	1997	S.L. 1997-443, s. 11A.118(a)	AMENDED
15	1998	S.L. 1998-202, s. 4(t)	AMENDED
16	2000	S.L. 2000-137, s. 4(w)	AMENDED
17	2001	S.L. 2001-437, s. 1.10	AMENDED
18	2001	S.L. 2001-487, s. 79.5	AMENDED
19	2005	S.L. 2005-371, s. 2	AMENDED
20	2006	S.L. 2006-142, s. 3(a)	AMENDED
21	2009	S.L. 2009-191, s. 1	AMENDED
22	2011	S.L. 2011-145, s. 19.1(l)	AMENDED
23	2012	S.L. 2012-151, s. 9(a)	AMENDED
24	2017	S.L. 2017-186, s. 2(ooooo)	AMENDED
25	2018	S.L. 2018-33, s. 7	AMENDED
26	2021	S.L. 2021-180, s. 19C.9(z)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
2 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 122C-121(d)	(a)(7)	"an area director in accordance with"
G.S. 122C-202.2	(a)(18)	"crisis services plans in accordance with"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 122C-117 (2023).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 122C-117(a) (2023).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

This document reproduces the text of one section of the General Statutes of North Carolina from a source file whose SHA-256 digest is printed on every page. The digest fixes the bytes this export was made from; if the State's file changes, the digest will not match.

The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1971, c. 470, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 133; c. 661; 1977, c. 568, s. 1; c. 679, s. 7; 1979, c. 358, ss. 1, 3, 14, 23; 1981, c. 51, s. 3; 1983, c. 383, s. 1; 1985, c. 589, s. 2; 1987, c. 830, s. 47(d); 1989, c. 625, s. 14; 1991, c. 215, s. 1; 1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 749, s. 2; 1997-443, s. 11A.118(a); 1998-202, s. 4(t); 2000-137, s. 4(w); 2001-437, s. 1.10; 2001-487, s. 79.5; 2005-371, s. 2; 2006-142, s. 3(a); 2009-191, s. 1; 2011-145, s. 19.1(l); 2012-151, s. 9(a); 2017-186, s. 2(ooooo); 2018-33, s. 7; 2021-180, s. 19C.9(z); 2023-134, s. 9G.7A(a7).)

