

FY2022 Buncombe County Isaac Coleman Grant Report

Organization Name:	Read to Succeed	
Project Name:	Equitable Opportunites for Literacy	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide brief responses that fit within the box provided

R2S wrapped up the year in Q4 with a whirlwind of community and family engagement activities.

Afterschool support at the Edington Center continued with three reading teachers supporting K-4 students two to three times a week. Teachers conducted phonemic awareness and phonics lessons with students and organized literacy centers/games. 4 trained reading tutors volunteered one to two times a week each, assisting with literacy lessons, reading centers, and homework help. R2S teachers and volunteers wrapped up for the school year the week of May 16, 2022.

Edington staff continued to meet with the R2S team weekly for continuing education and were paid monthly for their time.

In late May, R2S hosted a final continuing education meeting and surveyed staff about their experience with the literacy support program. Response data included:

- Scale of 1 to 5, the R2S reading teachers supported our K-4 students: 67% (5), 33% (4)
- Scale of 1 to 5, the R2S volunteers supported our K-4 students: 60% (5), 40% (4)
- Scale of 1 to 5, I gained skills and/or knowledge to better support student readers: 67% (5), 33% (4)

R2S Co-ED Jess McLean and Early Learning Consultant Jacque Hall presented at the Housing Authority of the City of Asheville board meeting, sharing how the literacy support program at Edington Center worked and what early results from this community-powered model revealed.

R2S assembled and delivered 106 Spring Break Book Bundles to students enrolled in the K-3 tutoring program plus additional students in the Children First/Communities In Schools and Claxton 21st Century Busy Bees afterschool programs. All Book Bundles included two books (one of which featured Black main characters), a reading activity/game, a bookmark, family reading guide, and monthly family reading newsletter. We held a "sidewalk book fair" at the Edington Center as well the Friday before Spring Break began for BCS and ACS. 50+ families were able to pick out two to three books, a comprehension guide and family reading newsletter, and a reading game to take home.

Overall project updates:

At Children First/Communities In Schools, R2S literacy consultant Carley Stein continued working with three students in the afterschool program identified for additional instructional support, one in first grade, one in second grade, and one in third. 100% of students made gains in Phonemic Awareness, being able to hear, separate, and manipulate speech sounds. 100% of students made gains in Letter sounds or Phonics and 100% made gains in fluency, reading smoothly with prosody. These gains are reflective of their score increases on the standardized mClass test they are administered at school at the beginning, middle, and end of year.

R2S participated in the Children First Pisgah View/Deaverview Apartments sites Family Night, hosting “Read a Book, Get a Book” with 8 students receiving “I Am Every Good Thing” by Derrick Barnes along with extension activities and learning supplies.

On May 2, 2022, R2S hosted Asheville-native and award-winning children’s book author, Ms. J.p. Miller for a whirlwind book tour with local students. Stopping first at Johnston Elementary School, Ms. Miller spoke at a student assembly (60+ third- and fourth-graders) in the school gym. She shared stories of growing up in Asheville, talked about becoming a writer, explored the difference between fiction and nonfiction genres, and read one of her nonfiction biographies to students. She ended with a Q&A and R2S shared signed copies of her books for every third- and fourth-grade classroom to keep.

After that, we visited the Arthur R. Edington and Project Lighten Up afterschool programs, where Ms. Miller spoke and read with K-4th graders and gave each one signed copies of her books. We ended the day with a group of 25+ students at the Shiloh Community Center, where Ms. Miller grew up and first attended school. In addition to reading one of her books and sharing signed copies with students, Ms. Miller also got to talk to students about what it was like growing up where they live now and take their questions.

In the first two weeks of June, staff members from 6+ community organizations completed a combined 360 hours of literacy training with R2S. Beginning with a community-wide literacy training offered on Zoom on June 1st, R2S reviewed the science of how children learn to read and best practices for supporting literacy during summer programs with representatives from Youth Transformed for Life (YTL), Literacy Together, YMCA, UNCA, and more in attendance.

From June 7 – 10, R2S conducted a 4 hr./day intensive workshop training with 21 staff members at the Edington Center and 5 staff members from Project Lighten Up. In addition to learning the fundamentals of how children learn to read and the foundational reading skills they need to acquire, staff members also practiced using Heggerty phonemic awareness curriculum, lesson planning, practicing Foundations phonics drills and procedures, organizing daily reading centers, exploring vocabulary and more. Breakfast and lunch were served each day of training and community members were paid \$25/hr or their time utilizing grant funds from a local family foundation.

On June 15, R2S led a two-hour training for 10 summer program staff at Children First/Communities In Schools. Designed in collaboration with Children First leadership, the training reviewed the science of how children learn to read and explored vocabulary instruction. R2S recruited volunteer reading tutors to lead live read-alouds with the Pisgah View and Woodridge Apartments summer camp sites.

R2S continued to develop a new partnership with Hood Huggers (Under Instruction) meeting with youth twice during Q4 to explore next steps for repairing and redesigning free community libraries in the historically-Black Burton Street Community.

Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:

In addition to infusing culturally-responsive instruction and materials into all the work undertaken by this grant, R2S also participated in several equity-driven initiatives in Q4. We continued contracting a Black community member who worked in the office through mid-May and we onboarded a summer high school intern for June - August. This intern also identifies as Black and is a rising sophomore at Asheville Christian Academy; she helps with family reading events, tutor/program supply organization, blog content generation, and more. In late May, R2S participated in GRINDFest, a local festival celebrating Black businesses; we shared 250 new Black children's books to visiting families and community members.

In May, R2S staff attended the United Way's United for Youth Spring Convening, and in June, the United Way Centennial Community Celebration for which we donated 240 culturally-responsive children's books and 480 printed family reading resources to be shared with community partners supporting students this summer.

Also in June, Co-ED Jess McLean attended a webinar sponsored by the Association of Fundraising Professionals with Danae Jones Aicher, formerly of Asheville, titled "Privilege, Power & Philanthropy: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the Fundraising World."

Activities related to increasing operational excellence:	<p>Three R2S staff members completed the Reading Research to Classroom Practice training in Q4, and AmeriCorps member (and soon to be full-time R2S Literacy Support Coordinator) completed a three-day Wilson Learning Systems workshop in June. R2S also signed up former Early Learning Consultant and now Co-Executive Director Jacquelyn Hall for the LETRS training that all ACS and BCS teachers will be taking in the coming year.</p> <p>R2S raised over \$35,000 at our 10-Year Celebration Event from corporate sponsors and individual donors and received media coverage from WLOS, Mountain Xpress, and 103.7 WPVM Asheville. In April, community partners FART Asheville and BorgWarner Turbo Systems gave a combined \$6,000+ to R2S through various community initiatives. R2S was awarded its first-ever grant from the Sutherland Family Foundation to support summer programming at the Edington Center, and we received additional notice of grant awards from Buncombe County, Junior League of Asheville, and WNC Bridge Foundation (multi-year grant) totaling \$345,000.</p> <p>We added several new resources to our website, including an entire Family Reading Resources section featuring free reading apps, culturally-responsive children’s book recommendations, family comprehension guides, and more. Year-over-year, traffic to the R2S website was up over 84% in Q4.</p> <p>In June, the R2S board of directors unanimously passed a \$412,000 FY2023 budget and voted to hire Jacquelyn Hall as the new Co-Executive Director following the departure of Jaimee Stanley, who moved to Minnesota with her husband.</p>
---	---

FY2022 Buncombe County Isaac Coleman Grant Report

Organization Name:	Read to Succeed		
Project Name:	Equitable Opportunites for Literacy		
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022)	

Progress toward annual goals

Measure	Annual Goal	Actual Results (Enter Data)				Progress
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of school-age children participating in summer programming at Edington PODS	20	38	N/A	N/A*	100*	138
% of school-aged children in summer program at Edington PODS demonstrating improved phonics, phonemic awareness, and fluency skills	75%	N/A	N/A	N/A*	N/A**	0%
# of school-aged children participating in summer programming with community partners ACS, Children First, Youthful HAND	50	225	N/A	N/A*	16	241
% of school-aged children in R2S school-year reading tutoring program demonstrating improved literacy scores	75%	N/A	N/A	100%**	100%**	100%
# of families participating in family literacy programs/events/workshops with community partners ACS, Children First, Youthful HAND	10	150	33	25	58	266

Comments:

*Summer programming serves approx. 100 K-12 children; we included 100 in the number as the training conducted with Edington staff was geared to reach that many students.

**R2S staff conduct CORE Phonics assessments with K-4 students attending the Edington PODS summer program in June 2022 and will reassess at the end of the summer to measure growth.

***Percentage of ACS/BCS students in the R2S tutoring program showing overall growth via the composite scores on their beginning-of-year (BOY) and middle-of-year (MOY) mClass reports. All but one of the students enrolled in the R2S tutoring program received BOY and MOY mClass assessments.

FY2022 Buncombe County Isaac Coleman Grant Report

Organization Name:	Read to Succeed		
Project Name:	Equitable Opportunitites for Literacy		
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022)	

Report of use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 68,000	\$ 13,250	\$ 19,250	\$ 21,821	\$ 13,679	\$ -
Training						\$ -
Supplies/Materials (Books/Learning Supplies)	\$ 2,000	\$ 553	\$ 1,116	\$ 148	\$ 183	\$ 0
Meetings						\$ -
Staff Training (Original: Equipment/Furniture)	\$ 1,240	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 427	\$ 784	\$ 29
Printing/Marketing	\$ 1,000	\$ 405	\$ 335	\$ 227	\$ 33	\$ 0
Licensing/Memberships/Dues/Subscriptions						\$ -
Client Support						\$ -
Contracts	\$ 2,061	\$ 2,061	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
Professional Services						\$ -
Insurance and Bonds						\$ -
Building Maintenance						\$ -
Summer Reading Programming	\$ 8,000	\$ 4,971			\$ 3,029	\$ -
Mileage Stipends	\$ 1,350	\$ 338	\$ 338	\$ 338	\$ 338	\$ (1)
Healthy Snacks	\$ 600	\$ 32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 568	\$ 0
Total	\$ 84,251	\$ 21,609	\$ 21,039	\$ 22,961	\$ 18,614	\$ 29

Comments: