

# FY2022 Buncombe County Tipping Point Grant Report

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Asheville Writers in the Schools and Community
<b>Project Name:</b>	Family Voices

Activities Accomplished	Annual Goal	Amount Completed
Number of youth participants in program activities	30	17
Percent of families with at least one member participating in community activities	70%	75%
Percent of participants reporting improved confidence in literacy	70%	90%

Expenses (please list all grant related expenses)	Amount Spent
AWITSC Program Coordinators	\$ 1,981.00
Writers In Residence	\$ 3,019.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>

<b>Overall project updates:</b>	A total of 11 sessions were conducted between March and June. This included an introductory session, five writing sessions with just the youth, 4 writing sessions with their families and a final celebration. Completed writing and artwork was used to create an anthology titled "The Amazing Book of Kids' Thoughts". All participants and their families received a copy of the anthology and additional copies were printed for sharing with funders or other interested persons.
<b>Indicators of service quality:</b> <i>(How well did we do it?)</i>	The delays and other challenges experienced from August through February severely impacted the ability to engage the target number of youth participants at the start. However, as the program continued, more interest was expressed from youth who wanted to participate. This is due in large part to a productive working relationship with YTL Training Programs who served as host site for this cycle. Program sessions were well received by participants and garnered positive feedback from program staff as well as host site staff.
<b>Result/Outcome:</b> <i>(Is anyone better off)</i>	While it is disappointing that we were not able to operate in the way we planned, we are pleased with the overall outcome. Students participating in the afterschool sessions were able to deepen their engagement with literacy through creative writing exercises and safe spaces to share their stories. Family members who joined their student participants for the family program sessions appreciated the opportunity to bond with each other while creating and sharing art. Experiences such as creating a community poem and celebrating the completed anthology of work with others, provided great opportunities for intergenerational connection. All participants reported an increase in confidence with their own writing, even though many of them were not as comfortable with reading what they wrote in front of larger audiences. At the conclusion of the program, we conducted a debrief meeting in order to obtain feedback related to what went well, what could have been better and what innovations should be considered for future cycles. Another positive result was the deepening of the partner relationship between AWITSC and YTL Training Programs. This has resulted in an increase in collaborative activities, which we expect to grow even further in the months ahead.