

BUNCOMBE COUNTY COVID RECOVERY FUNDING

Project Spotlight

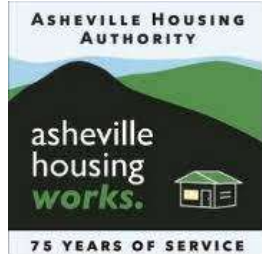


In order to promote a strong and equitable recovery from COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts, Buncombe County invested federal funds into projects like this one.

Project

Chosen PODS Summer Camp

Lead Organization



Award Amount

\$50,000

Project Dates

July 2022 – August 2022





Impact Area

Addressing Educational Disparities

How the Funds Were Used

The Housing Authority of the City of Asheville (HACA) addressed educational disparities through aid to high-poverty districts through its Chosen PODS Summer Camp program, utilizing ARPA funds to fund Youth Impact Workers (high school and college students), pay for camper meals, and provide transportation for camper swimming and field trips. HACA engaged with community partners including Western Carolina Rescue Ministries to provide a safe and educational camp experience for youth between the ages of 6-14 living in the Southside, Hillcrest, Pisgah View, and Deaverview housing communities. The camp included math and reading tutoring for campers, in addition to structured recreational activities. The project intended to help break the cycles of poverty and close the achievement gap for over 140 at-risk youth by providing a two-month long summer camp.

Results

-  **113** students served
-  **26** Youth Impact Workers employed
-  **85%** attendance rate
-  **85%** of students self-reported their

desire to achieve academic success



“I’ve never seen a camp where our kids have so much love, learning and resources for the staff and children. The staff and kids know they care.”

Ms. Angel
Youth Impact Worker

Our kindergarteners, first and second graders are working hard this morning!



Discussions on what they want to be when they grow up and story time!

