

FY2022 Buncombe County Tipping Point Grant Report

Organization Name:	Bountiful Cities
Project Name:	Southside Community Garden Market Program

Activities Accomplished	Annual Goal	Amount Completed
Number of summer camp participants	15	13
Percent of youth reporting an increased awareness of entrepreneurship concepts and urban agriculture/food justice issues	70%	80%
Average amount earned per youth from market activities	\$75	\$110

Expenses (please list all grant related expenses)	Amount Spent
Youth participant stipends	\$ 1,430.00
Lead coordinator	\$ 1,570.00
Program assistants	\$ 1,500.00
Supplies	\$ 500.00
TOTAL:	\$ 5,000

Overall project updates:	<p>Program activities resumed in early January after a short break for the holidays. Since the program took place outside of the intended parameters, an additional and unanticipated level of effort was required during implementation. This included everything from identifying and retaining new program leads to navigating administrative logistics such as transportation and communication with guardians. Because the participants were not part of a pre-existing program as originally planned, additional effort was required to establish a container and community agreements that created a healthy space for program activities. Due to such a wide range of participant ages (from 6yrs to 12yrs) and the fact that many of them were related, a greater than anticipated level of effort was required from program leads to manage conflict between participants and maintain their engagement. Gratefully, the program leads rose to the challenge and as a result, the program continues to this day, with the same youth and an updated approach.</p>
Indicators of service quality: <i>(How well did we do it?)</i>	<p>The greatest shift that resulted was moving away from the focus on entrepreneurship. Program leads realized that the age of the participants and the challenges faced while working to establish a healthy container during activities required a greater degree of flexibility. This resulted in prioritizing hands-on activities and opportunities for small group projects. The level of responsiveness and care shown by program leads resulted in consistent engagement from program participants. Considering that this cohort of participants was created uniquely for and by this experience, the consistent and increased engagement provides an authentic indicator for how well we did our work.</p>
Result/Outcome: <i>(Is anyone better off)</i>	<p>We do believe that program participants are better off primarily because the time spent in program activities contributed to creating a safe and healthy space for youth in public housing. Although activities took place for a few hours each week, it was clear that participants looked forward to that time. Moreover, even though an expected level of resistance was demonstrated by youth at first, it was clear that working with them to define ways to set shared goals and hold each other accountable was necessary. Program staff also modeled ways of being in community that participants don't experience as often outside of program activities. In this way, we believe participants are better off because they are developing tools to help them navigate the world in healthier ways.</p>