

Brighter Futures

*FY 2018 Buncombe County Community
Funding*

The Joseph Initiative

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Application Form

Project Name*

Name of Project

Brighter Futures

Amount Requested*

Amount Requested

\$50,000.00

Service Area*

Which Commissioner Districts are served by this program?

Access a map of Buncombe County Commissioner districts [here](#).

District 1

District 2

District 3

Which county sustainability goal aligns best with the goals of this project?*

Based on the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan, select a Category, Goal & Objective that align with the focus of the project and the specific results that will be achieved.

Access the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan [here](#).

Community > Educational Resources that Match the Needs of the Community > Promote programs that supplement equitable educational opportunities for all ages

If applicable, select a second sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.

Result 2 is optional - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal & Objective.

Economy > Workforce Development > Encourage collaboration among workforce and educational institutions

If applicable, select a third sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.

Result 3 is optional - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal & Objective.

[Unanswered]

Project Description

Project Description*

Description of Project

The Joseph Initiative's multi-media journalism project has been specifically designed to multiply the results we have already seen in our "Making Asheville News" program. This project is a unique fully-immersive hands-on practical 6-session training course that results in a public screening of their journalistic results. It specifically:

- * Teaches students employable skills in film making, writing, journalism and marketing which is great because it opens the door to more career opportunities than would be normally available without this project.

- * Connects teens to local retail, entertainment, government, and service leaders and employers with mandatory 'man/woman on the street' style interviews. This is beneficial because it builds relevant and meaningful business and community connections.

- * Integrates local teens from all walks of life as they focus on producing journalistic pieces that highlight the human value of participants and their neighbors to breakdown societal barriers and develop long-term and meaningful socioeconomic connections.

- * Increases motivation and interest in learn to improve school attendance, strengthen academic performance and reduce high school drop out rates.

- * Engages local community members with one another on specific team projects which is great because it builds neighbor to neighbor connections that result in thriving and connected communities.

How many people will this project serve?*

State the number of individuals or households in Buncombe County that will be served by this project. Also state the number of people that will experience the desired result. For example, if dropout prevention services are being delivered to 100 students, how many will successfully graduate from high school?

This program will serve 30 teens. The teens will get exposure to business leaders, owners, political figures and other within their community. They will begin to establish professional relationship while working together to learn skills in multi media that will be beneficial in life regardless of whether they are interested in a career in multi media or not. The program will teach grammatical skills, interviewing techniques, teamwork, while they are gaining a sense of self confidence as they learn how to interact with people and the power of those interactions. They will learn how other people have overcome their obstacles to become successful. They will learn how to work together with people from different ethnic backgrounds, socioeconomic backgrounds and other difference. This gives a hands on opportunity for the youth to learn skills and to have a tangible finished product such as a published article or a completed documentary.

Describe the people this project will serve.*

Characterize the demographics of the project's target population in terms such as age, gender, income, race, ethnicity, geographic area, etc. Include information about method of referral/recruitment of the target population.

This project will serve all people within our community. We want to cross age, gender, income race, ethnicity and are not limited to any particular geographical area. We are about relationships, advancement, connections, and collaborations. These are the components that strengthens families and strengthens community. Anyone in Buncombe County who wants to participate is welcomed. There will be a cost for all programs on a sliding scale basis. No one will be turned down because they don't have money or because they have too much.

Buncombe County Tipping Points grantors have inquired about having the youth video other tipping point grantee and creating a documentary to present to grantors.

What key steps will you take to achieve the results of this project?*

Describe the core elements of your implementation plan, including milestones that will take place within the funding timeframe.

Upon being awarded grant money:

- Press release to inform the community of the grant award and the upcoming program
- Obtain equipment needed for the program
- Confirm contracts with professionals who will teach and carry out the program
- Confirm space
- Line up needed transportation
- Market via social media, news media, community members, schools and community partners to get teens signed up for the program.
- Conduct interview with teens that express an interest in being part of the program
- Having college intern conduct pre-interviews with teen before starting the class
- Confirm transportation source

Describe the evidence of success that backs this project's approach.*

What evidence of success (i.e. evidence-based research, practice model, accreditation, industry standards, and/or other framework) are you using as a basis for your project design?

Everyone knows that the Community Resilience Model by the Trauma Resource Institute is the leading platform to train community members to not only help themselves but to help others within their wider social network.

In addition, we are using industry-leading hands-on training techniques that have been tested and shown to work better than traditional teaching schemes.

Melissa Dark, the Assistant Dean for Strategic Planning in the College of Technology at Purdue University has even said "In every area we tested, the students who were involved in a hands-on project learned more

and demonstrated a deeper understanding of the issues than the traditional group. This is a significant finding because it proves that with some students — especially groups traditionally underrepresented in science and engineering — the book-and-lecture format may not be the best way to engage students in learning."

We have completely embraced this concept in our teaching.

Describe your data collection, tracking, and reporting procedures.*

Explain your methods for documenting project, service and client information. Include a description of any software or other tools utilized.

Consultation with Jill Fromewick at Sparrow Research Group will assist in using the Theory of Change to evaluate the effectiveness of the program and show desired results. A student from Western Carolina or UNCA will be given an opportunity to follow the program and to record its success. Each teen will be given a short survey before the program and then they will be given a short survey afterwards to evaluate their growth. The parents will give permission for the student to be tracked until they finish high school where basic information about attendance, grades and whether they go to college or choose to work. The younger teen will also be followed for two years to determine if there are any improvements in grades and attendance. Follow up will be done at the time they are due to graduate to find out their disposition at that time.

Explain your technological resources and capacity.*

Explain your current technological strengths and barriers and how this impacts your ability to track data and report outcomes. Who is responsible for adaptation and use of technology within your organization?

a laptop or a desktop computer is what is needed to document the Theory of Change Model. There is a template on line that can be downloaded for a nominal fee and the intern can begin tracking the outcomes that will be compiled into a report and presented to Buncombe County at the completion of the program. At this time there is not a current barrier noted. Jill Fromewick will be retained to assist with any issues that arise.

Organizational Profile

How does the proposed project support your mission and strategic plan?*

State your mission and the date of your most recent strategic plan, and explain how the proposed project helps advance your organizational goals.

The Joseph Initiative is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that partners with members of our local community and non-profit organizations to offer enrichment programs that strengthen families and unite our community.

Making Asheville News is directly in line with our mission statement. We are strengthening our community by offering programs that will help teen develop marketable skills while establishing important

contacts and relationships within the business community. There is much research that states a connected and supported youth has a much greater success than one who is disconnected without hope.

What expertise/accomplishments do you have that are relevant to the proposed project?*

List your organization's strengths as well as accomplishments from the past 3 years that position the organization to be successful with the proposed project.

Our organization is less than two years old. We have done Making Asheville News previously and got tremendous community support for our teens. We have a solid board that has a number of people varying skill sets.

Karen Cowan, MSW with more than 25 years working with the community

Bradley Waldrop an engineer who is the office director for a major engineer firm and who also had his own radio and internet television show

Anne Lazo Owner of Eagle Soars Marketing Firm who does all the media and marketing for the organization

Emily Danciu-Grossom MPA who has expertise in working with people who have disabilities

LaQuita Austin, Licensed Professional Counselor who also works for NC Vocational Rehabilitation

Victoria Muniz - 19 year old entrepreneur since age 16. She is a photographer and videographer

Tina Davis - she grew up in the system and is currently owns her own Commercial Cleaning Business in WNC

Iindia Person - AAS in Accounting and is the Finance Director and a Army Reservist.

Describe partners that are critical to the success of your organization.*

List any external partners, intermediaries or advisors important to your success, and describe their role and evidence of their commitment. Describe successful collaborations with these people or groups.

Buncombe County - Grant money and accountability to deliver as promised.

Brother Blue Studio - To Teach our teens the art of filming and everything that goes along with it.

Local Businesses - To available and willing to be supports this initiative.

Buncombe County Schools - to be a referral resource sending student participants. Also any teachers that would volunteer their time and talent.

Asheville City Schools - to be a referral resource sending student participants. Also any teachers that would volunteer their time and talent.

Vaya Health - Teach Community Resiliency Model to teens, volunteers, business participants.

NC Vocational Rehabilitation Services - Referral source

Mars Hill Theater - To showcase documentaries

Urban News - Publish articles

Mountain Express - Publish Articles

Local Universities - student volunteers and interns

Parents - to support their children's accomplishments

Financial Information

Nonprofit financial assurance requirements:

Financial statements, prepared using a recognizable basis of accounting (i.e., modified accrual) and IRS Form 990s must be submitted to Buncombe County annually.

- Organizations with annual revenues of \$300,000 or greater must submit financial statements audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
- Those with revenues between \$100,000 and \$300,000 must submit financial statements reviewed in accordance with SSARS 19.
- Those with revenues of less than \$100,000 must submit non-disclosure financial statements compiled in accordance with SSARS 19.

All financial statements must be reported on by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

These requirements are considered minimum requirements. Organizations may submit a higher level of assurance than is required.

IRS Form 990 - Upload Here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the 990 form you most recently completed.

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

The Joseph Initiative is not required to submit a 990 until the end of December 2016. This will be completed by Johnson, Vollmerhausen and Gates PLLC. Our bookkeeping is done by Bell and Olander.

Financial Statements - Upload here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements (audit, compilation or review).

2016 JI Report.pdf

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

[Unanswered]

Complete Budget Worksheet - Upload Here*

Download the budget form [Here](#).

Complete the budget form for this project/program and the overall agency. Save it to your computer, then upload it by clicking Choose File.

community-funding-budget-form.xlsx

Budget Narrative*

Describe all differences between current year and proposed year. List all pending funding sources with expected date of notification. Please detail any other information that may help clarify the budget.

The current year has what we currently have available to us and the proposed year lists what we expect to get and what we will do with it when we get it.

What (if any) portion of requested funds will be used to support capital expenses?*

Capital projects are defined as those used to acquire or upgrade physical assets such as property, buildings, or equipment. Please detail.

Equipment will be purchased and not rented for the Multimedia programs such as video cameras, still cameras, computers.

Employee Wages

Please provide information about the wage breakdowns of your employees. Living wage for Buncombe County has been identified as \$11.00 per hour for employees with employer-provided health insurance and \$12.50 per hour for employees without.

Employees with employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization with employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$10.99 per hour

\$11.00 - \$14.99 per hour

\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour

\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour

\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour

\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour

\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour

\$40.00+ per hour

The Joseph Initiative has no employees as of yet. Everything The Joseph Initiative has accomplished has been through the dedication of community volunteers.

Employees without employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization without employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$12.49 per hour

\$12.50 - \$14.99 per hour

\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour

\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour

\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour

\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour

\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour

\$40.00+ per hour

Program currently in run strictly by volunteers. Will hire a Office Manager two days a week at 11.00 per hour. As we grow we will always be an organization the pay Living Wage to all employees.