

**Buncombe County FY2019 Strategic Partnership Grants
Application Summary Sheet**

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| Project | CWA Early Learning Upgrade |
| Organization | The Christine Avery Learning Center |

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| Amount Requested | \$30,000 | Strategic Priority or Sustainability Goal | Early Childhood Education |
| New or Renewal Request | New | Area Served | District 1 |

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| Organization Description | Christine Avery Learning Center (CALC) Mission: To provide students of all backgrounds with access to a quality education rooted in sociocultural theory; assisting in the growth and development of our students academically and socially; producing the next generation of leaders. The organization provides educational and enrichment opportunities through a variety of programs, catering to students of all ages. The doctrine is designed to enhance and aid academic and total developmental processes. To achieve this goal, CALC implement active community involvement and awareness. By engaging students in community activism, they not only learn about being successful but they are also helping fortify success within the community and assisting others to reach success. |
| Key Steps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the program is to enhance the care of preschoolers by creating an atmosphere of foundational learning success. Embedding language and literacy, social-emotional, cognitive and physical development, and creative expression in early learning increases a child's success in critical thinking, problem-solving, and self-regulation at the onset of school. • Direct instruction from our teachers will be combined with child-initiated play to produce optimal conditions for young children's learning and socialization. • With this approach, adults support children's creativity, problem-solving, intuition, and inventiveness (approaches to learning) by challenging and encouraging them. |
| People Served | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 60 students, ages two - five, who are currently enrolled are eligible. Although the primary focus is on students whose families receive subsidy income for child care expense, no child will be eliminated from participating in the program. • Student population is made up of 95% African American, 3% White, and 1% Latino. 85% live at or below the poverty level. |
| Outcomes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 students served. Students will: Increase learning capacity through tiered educational activities Enhance ability to develop, comprehend and understand language Recognize and regulate impulses, emotions, attention, and behaviors |

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| Budget | | | |
| Amount Funded FY2018 | n/a | Increase Request | n/a |
| Administrative Budget | 0% (from 2016 IRS Form 990) | Total Organization Budget | \$295,000 (projected FY2019) |
| Other Funding Sources: Grants, Individual donations, Government funding, Private foundations | | | |

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| Strengths |
| Project design is evidence based, replicating a structured model, and/or best practice |
| Well-linked, creative, and/or non-traditional partnerships |
| Project serves underserved, underrepresented, minority, and/or high-need population |

CWA Early Learning Upgrade

FY2019 Strategic Partnership Grants

The Christine Avery Learning Center

CiCi Weston
PO Box 7594
Asheville, NC 28802

avery.learningcenter@gmail.com
O: 828-232-7433
M: 828-280-9606
F: 828-232-7434

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Application Form

Question Group

Project Name*

Name of Project.

CWA Early Learning Upgrade

Amount Requested*

\$30,000.00

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Area Served*

Which areas of the County will be served by this project? Which Commissioner District(s) will be served?

A Buncombe County Commissioner district map is available at [THIS LINK](#).

The project will serve families from all areas of the county. Many of the parents who use our facility choose to do so for various reasons although they may live in other districts of the county. The greatest concentrated population of families using our facility live in District One of Buncombe County. Our facility is located in District One of the county, therefore Commissioner District One will be served.

Organization Description*

Tell us about your organization. What is your mission? Highlight two or three key facts and accomplishments that best define your organization.

Mission: To provide students of all backgrounds with access to a quality education rooted in socio-cultural theory; assisting in the growth and development of our students academically and socially; producing the next generation of leaders! Our organization provides educational and enrichment opportunities through a variety of programs, catering to students of all ages. Our unique educational experience offering is culturally specific embracing the doctrine of IALAC. Our doctrine is designed to enhance and aid academic and total developmental processes. We not only offer principles for success to the students, but create a system to disseminate these same principles throughout the community and to future generations. To achieve this goal, we implement active community involvement and awareness. By engaging students in community activism, they not only learn about being successful but they are also helping fortify success within the community and assisting others to reach success.

Strategic Priority*

Which of the following priorities best reflects the primary goal of your project?

Buncombe County Commissioners are dedicated to strengthening the quality of life for everyone by setting new fiscally, socially and environmentally responsible goals that will guide decisions and improve our community for future generations. The Board has committed to strategic priorities as a guide to shape partnerships and investments of resources to insure a healthy, safe, well-educated, thriving and sustainable community.

Details about the Strategic Priorities are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Early Childhood Education

Strategic Priority - Other Sustainability Goal

If you selected "Other Sustainability Goal" from the list of Strategic Priorities, please list it here.

Details about the Sustainability Goals are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Shared Vision*

What critical community problem or challenge are you hoping to improve through this project?

Of recent, society understands the need to better align education so that any student entering school will enter on an even plain. With this understanding, the need to provide better quality education in preschool and early learning programs arose. Our organization hopes to help improve quality in early learning. Our program is designed to meet the developmental areas of early learning for children ages 2 - 5. The developmental areas are: language and literacy, social emotional, physical development, cognitive development, and creative expression. Statistically, it is shown that toddlers and preschoolers learn better through play. 80% of our families live in public housing and 85% of the 60 children enrolled in our care qualify for child care subsidy. Our classroom materials used to provide the skills of developmental learning for our children are outdated and lacking. To provide quality, we must be current with materials and curriculum.

Key Steps*

How will the project work? What are specific activities and milestones that your project entails?

The purpose of the program is to enhance the care of preschoolers by creating an atmosphere of foundational learning success. Embedding language and literacy, social-emotional, cognitive and physical development, and creative expression in early learning increases a child's success in critical thinking, problem-solving, and self-regulation at the onset of school. Child Development experts suggest that providing a framework for learning in the key developmental areas assures there is a continuum of learning that begins when students are young and continue through high school graduation. Direct instruction from our teachers will be combined with child-initiated play to produce optimal conditions for young children's learning and socialization. With this approach, adults support children's creativity, problem-solving, intuition, and inventiveness (approaches to learning) by challenging and encouraging them. These experiences will encompass the child's interests, abilities, and culture .

People Served*

Who are the members of our community this project will serve? How many people will be served? Include demographics, including age, area median income, race, neighborhood and/or school.

The 60 students, ages two - five, who are currently enrolled are eligible. Although the primary focus is on students whose families receive subsidy income for child care expense, no child will be eliminated from participating in the program. Parents receiving child care subsidy are less likely to seek additional tangible resources for their child's educational enhancement because it can be costly for them. For this reason, it is the intent of the program to provide high quality learning by using state of the art materials studied to enhance preschool learning. Our population is made up of 95% African American, 3% White, and 1% Latino. 85% live at or below the poverty level. Many of our families currently reside in public housing throughout the county, with a greater concentration within Commissioner District One area.

Partners*

Which other organizations are you working with to reach your goals? What other local organizations provide similar services or serve similar beneficiaries, and how do you work together?

Currently we are actively engaged with Buncombe Partnership for Children, Asheville City Schools, and NC Pre-K. Through the Buncombe Partnership for Children, Asheville City Schools and NC Pre-K, a coalition of organizations serving children inside and outside of Buncombe County come together for training and information sessions regarding updated child care. Buncombe Partnership also provides director programs, allowing all directors of child care programs across the county to come together for brainstorm and collaborative efforts. Many organizations provide Early Learning Programs. Some, well-known, are Community Action Head Start, Verner, Elida, YWCA, YMCA, JCC, Child Care Network. Although the list is long for service providers, there is still a lack of care throughout the city that is affordable for families at and below the poverty level. Our program works to serve the population of those being made up mostly of those at or below the poverty level.

Personnel*

Who is responsible for the project? Briefly describe project leaders and the role each will play in the project. How do these leaders reflect the population or community that you serve?

The program is currently staffed with a director, six teaching staff, a classroom floater, administrative assistant, part-time maintenance person and cook. Staff responsible for implementing the program will be the director, administrative assistant, teachers and floater. We must maintain low ratios in order to attentively interact with each child and assure learning. An additional floater will be hired to help maintain low ratios and enhance learning by assisting the teacher in implementing the curriculum, assuring all materials are ready and available for the next day. It is the plan to increase the hourly wage of each staff. Each are currently making well below the city's living wage. Staff are reflective of the population served and the population of the county district in which the program is housed.

Success*

How will you measure results? What will success look like? How will you document the impact of your project? Include whether there is a model that serves as basis for project design.

- a. 60 students served. Students will:
- b. Increase learning capacity through tiered educational activities
- c. Enhance ability to develop, comprehend and understand language

d. Recognize and regulate impulses, emotions, attention, and behaviors

These outcome will be measured in the following ways: A-Measure the student's mastery of various educational games as they become more difficult over a period of time. B- Written observation will be noted on the students who follow direction and understand complex language during staff child interactions. C-Staff will note the number of times a child self-regulates emotions and follow limits and expectations. The Early Literacy and Learning Model (ELLM) is a literacy-focused curriculum and support system targeting young children from low-income families. This model presents ways to increase literacy learning in young children using various methods, including learning materials, learning centers, and staff child interactions.

Funding*

What is your plan for finding the balance of the project budget? What is your funding timeline and what are your other sources of support?

Our plan for finding balance of the project budget is to seek grants and solicit donations from private donors. We will leverage funds received from subsidy to assist as well. Currently we have a 3-5 year plan to cultivate donors, solicit corporate partnerships and increase board members that will contribute financially. We are a majority volunteer-based organization. We believe in not only the passion of our dedicated volunteers, but the strategic vision and implementation that the board of directors has planned for the next 3 to 5 years. This plan includes the board of directors using their connections in the community, marketing, business and educational background in soliciting for in kind donations, individual contributions, annual contributions, and sponsorship. The agency intends to develop an institutional endowment fund as well as an operating reserve during this time frame.

Sustainability*

How will this project be maintained? Please describe funding sources and how you plan to sustain the project in future years.

If we do not receive funding, we will operate this program with limited resources. This funding would allow for us to have what is needed. We intend to facilitate this program even with limited funding. However, this funding would not allow us to fully engage the students in new learning opportunities that will be direct beneficiaries of our project outcomes that ultimately impact their overall quality of life. In our development plan, dedicated board members and volunteers are responsible for cultivating low to mid to high-level donors. We plan to use this funding to produce outputs that are conducive to the project outcomes. We are confident that our outcomes will yield the projected outputs that future funders and possible corporate sponsors will value and support financially as well.

ATTACHMENTS

Project Budget*

Download the budget form at [THIS LINK](#).

Complete the budget form for this project and the overall organization.

Save it to your computer, then upload it.

strategic-partnership-grants-FY2019-budget-cwa.xlsx

Financial Statements*

Upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements.

All financial statements must be audited, reviewed or compiled by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

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

We currently do not have a financial statement. Our board of directors financial team is working with our accountant to construct a financial statement. As of this date, the statement is incomplete. At the time of completion, we will be happy to send it.

IRS Form 990*

Upload a copy of the 990 nonprofit tax reporting form that you most recently completed.

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

Grant Info. IRS 990 2016.pdf

Board of Directors List*

Upload a current list of your organization's Board of Directors.

If your organization does not have a board of directors, briefly state the reason.

CWA Board of Directors.docx

Authorized Signatory

By typing in below the name of the authorized signatory and date of submittal, you acknowledge that your governing body has authorized this application, that it is true and current to your knowledge. As a condition of any grant awarded, this organization will provide all information in the manner described in the contract to be executed between the organization and Buncombe County or its designee, including program and financial reporting.

Name & Date

CiCi Weston 02/08/2018

