



## Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

### Request for Board Action

**Meeting Date: 6/21/2022**

#### **New Business**

**Department:** Commissioners

**Presenter(s):** Commissioners Al Whitesides, Amanda Edwards & Jasmine Beach-Ferrara

**Contact(s):** Rachael Nygaard, Strategic Partnerships Director

**Subject:** Community Investment – 2022 Chosen PODS Summer Camp

**Brief Summary:** On the heels of a very difficult couple years for the youth in Buncombe County and throughout the nation, communities are developing strategies to support the closing of learning gap that was an unintended consequence of the pandemic. In addition to this concern, productive and resourceful activities for vulnerable youth are invaluable. Accordingly, county commissioners have received a request for funding to support the 2022 Chosen PODS summer camp.

The Chosen PODS Summer Camp proposal states: It is aimed at helping youth living in Southside, Hillcrest, Pisgah view and Deaverview Communities. The camp will provide these campers between the ages of 6 -14 a safe environment, with educational activities, structured programs, field trips, and weekly fun outings. This opportunity was made available last summer and supported 75 children each day, employed youth and adults from the community. This year we have registered 140 youth and have incorporated cultural dance lessons and sporting activities. The Summer Camp convenes the first Monday after the last day of classes for Asheville City Schools (ACS) and continues weekly Monday - Friday until the last Friday before ACS classes resume. Chosen will continue to partner with the Asheville Housing Authority and utilize the Arthur R Edington Education center on Livingston Street.

The presenting Commissioners would like for this request to be discussed and considered for approval.