

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council County Plan

Buncombe County

For FY 2025-2026

Table of Contents

- I. Executive Summary
- II. County Funding Plan
- III. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Organization
- IV. County Risk, Needs and YASI Assessment Summary
- V. County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Request for Proposals
- VI. Funding Decisions Summary
- VII. Funded Programs *Program Enhancement Plan* (PEP) OR, add brief program description for any program without a PEP.

Attachments:

- Buncombe County Youth Resource Guide

Executive Summary

The Buncombe County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC), in fulfillment of the duties and responsibilities as set forth in the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina, has reviewed and updated this County Plan for FY 2025-2026. In 2019, House Bill 593 passed which approved an optional 1 or 2-year funding cycle for DPS JCPC funds, which is determined locally by each JCPC statewide. Also included in the HB was Raise the Age in N.C. which directs 16 & 17 years old from District Court to Juvenile Court. In order to see any new possible trends in juvenile justice data (now serving 16 & 17 year old) and to plan programming in the community accordingly, the Buncombe County JCPC approved a 2-year funding cycle. Data continues to be monitored by the JCPC annually which provides direction to which funding cycle is most beneficial to the community and Council.

The JCPC has identified the issues and factors which have an influence and impact on youth and families who are involved in juvenile court, and those vulnerable or at-risk of juvenile court involvement in Buncombe County. Further, the JCPC has identified the strategies and services most likely to reduce/prevent behavior that could lead to court-involvement.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Each program funded in the past fiscal year by the JCPC has been monitored by the JCPC Monitoring Committee and programs were found in full compliance with DPS JCPC Policy and within the operating parameters of their budget and, providing the services as described in their program agreement. The monitoring results and program outcome evaluations were considered in making funding allocation decisions. The JCPC will continue to conduct annual implementation monitoring of its funded programs.

Priorities for Funding: Through a review of risk & needs assessment data, the Youth Assessment Screening Inventory (YASI) data and a community resource assessment, the JCPC has determined that the following services are priorities to serve youth who are court-involved and to reduce/prevent future involvement:

- Priority 1: Restitution / Community Service
- Priority 2: Restorative Services / Restorative Justice / Teen Court / Conflict Resolution
- Priority 3: Interpersonal /Experiential Skills
- Priority 4: Vocational Skills
- Priority 5: Tutoring/Academic Enhancement/Mentoring
- Priority 6: Substance Misuse/Individual/Group Counseling Services
- Priority 7: Parent / Family Skill Building
- Priority 8: Runaway / Temporary Shelter

Funding Recommendations: Having advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for these needed services for a minimum of thirty (30) days, the JCPC has screened the submitted proposals and has determined which proposals best meet the advertised needed services. As required by statute, the JCPC recommends allocation of the NC Department of Public Safety, Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention funds to the following programs in the amounts specified below for the upcoming fiscal year*: (Also, see the Buncombe County Funding Plan with this report.)

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Teen Court (Buncombe Alternatives) | \$101,100 |
| 2. Earn and Learn (Buncombe Alternatives) | \$200,000 |
| 3. Kids at Work! & The Connection (Aspire – Buncombe) | \$117,716 |
| 4. PIVOTPoint WNC & PIVOTPoint Prevention (PIVOTPoint WNC) | \$131,374 |
| 5. Umoja and UNETE Restorative Practices Program (Umoja) | \$78,787 |

**Note: All programs listed above were funded for 2 years.*

The JCPC further recommends that the following amount be allocated for the administrative costs of the Council for fiscal year 25-26: \$15,500.

These funding priorities are recommended in response to ongoing concerns regarding the high percentage of complaints filed for youth with low levels of risk and need, high strengths, paired with high inequities at the point of referral into the juvenile justice system. The JCPC recommends increasing alternative pathways to respond to youth behavior and needs, including through behavioral health and restorative justice opportunities, increasing access to other JCPC-funded programs through direct referrals from schools and community partners, and increasing awareness of community-based resources available to support youth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jorge Redmond, Chair, Buncombe County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Date: _____

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Organization

FY 24-25	Name	Organization	Title
Chairperson	Jorge Redmond	Buncombe County Sheriff's Office	Senior Attorney
Vice-Chairperson	Brandon Priester	Land of Sky Regional Council	Youth Business Services Representative
Planning Committee Chair	Angela Garner	VAYA Health	Community Relations Regional Director
Monitoring Committee Chair	Andy Bobowski	Backrs	Co-Founder & CEO
Allocations Committee Chair	Angel Redmond	Asheville Parks & Rec.	Facility Supervisor

Number of members for FY 24-25: 23

List meeting dates during the current fiscal year and identify the number of JCPC members in attendance for each.

Meeting Date	Number of Members in Attendance	Quorum Present? Yes/No
8/15/24	17	Yes
10/17/24	10	No*
12/20/24	17	Yes
2/20/25	23	Yes
4/17/25	15	Yes
5/__/25		
6/11/25		

*During Hurricane Helene recovery; no action taken.

*Special Session

**RISKS, NEEDS, & STRENGTHS SUMMARY REPORT
BUNCOMBE COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL (JCPC)
PLANNING COMMITTEE
DECEMBER, 2024**

- I. Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) Summary**
- II. Summary of Community Resources**
- III. Summary of Gaps and Barriers in the Community Continuum**
- IV. Proposed Priority Services for Funding**
- V. Appendix – Additional Data**

Part I. Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) Summary

The Planning Committee reviewed aggregate data from Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI) assessments from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This is a measurement tool administered by Juvenile Court Counselors after youth are referred with a complaint alleging that a delinquency act has occurred and before adjudication of the youth. The YASI is an assessment that measures risk, need, and strength/protective factors in youth who are referred to the juvenile justice system, used for measuring risks related to recidivism and developing service plans. The assessment addresses twelve domains: Legal History, Family, Basic Needs, School, Community and Peers, Alcohol and Drugs, Mental Health, Physical Health, Aggression, Attitudes, Skills, and Employment and Free Time.

The full YASI assessment consists of over 100 separate items useful for both predictive risk and case management, so data reported from this review consists of county-level risk factors that may be prioritized by the JCPC for RFP development, as well as for highlighting prevalent issues among court-involved youth that individual programs and community-based organizations will want to consider when working with youth in the county. The aggregate outputs from full YASI assessments are one of the data sources used by the Committee and are the focus of summaries that follow in this document. YASI questions are framed in either a historical context (Legal History, for example), or in some cases, “current” or “prior three-months” timeframes for other, more dynamic, questions.

According to the US Census, the approximate population of youth ages 6 – 17 for Buncombe County is 33,002. During the fiscal year of 2023 – 2024, Buncombe County Juvenile Court Services staff completed 311 YASI assessments (the previous year there were 526 YASI assessments completed). The data provided below is based on the risks, needs, and strengths that are noted at the first assessment by Juvenile Justice at intake:

General Observations and Points of Interest

There is both a pre-screen assessment and a full assessment, however, in Buncombe County it is standard practice for all court-involved youth to receive the full YASI assessment at intake.

In 2023-2024, Buncombe County saw a decline in the number of youth referred to the Juvenile Justice System from the previous year: the number of youth seen at intake was 254 (FY23=385), and the number of YASI assessments was 311 (FY23=526).

Consistent with research across the country, in May 2023 the NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission published a Juvenile Recidivism Study ([linked here](#)), which noted: “the lowest levels of recidivism correspond[] to the least invasive systemic responses of the juvenile justice system, particularly by intervening with youth short of adjudication... this report and past report findings indicate the most efficient and effective investment of sufficient resources is in the community, at the front end of the juvenile justice system.”

Compared to the state, Buncombe County still has much higher numbers of youth being referred to DJJ with low risk levels, very low needs, and very high strengths, though the percentage of youth with low risks and needs at intake declined since the previous year.

- Risk Level – 55% of the 311 assessed youth exhibited low risks (a decline from 65% the previous year). This is still higher than the state’s rate of 43%.
- Needs Level – 57% of the 311 assessed youth exhibited very low needs (a decline from 65% the previous year). This is higher than the state’s rate of 37%.
- Strengths Level – 73% of the 311 assessed youth exhibited high or very high strengths levels (previous year had been 81%). This is higher than the state’s rate of 55%.

School-Based Offense (SBO) Complaints declined as well (see School-Justice Partnership dashboard on page 9 - [SJP Dashboard | Tableau Public](#) – for interactive data on past three years): In FY24, 181 SBO Complaints were filed, a 49% decrease from 2 years prior (FY23=336, FY22=356). Of the 181 SBO Complaints:

- 40% were filed on Black/African American youth, 45% were filed on White youth, and 11% were filed on Hispanic/Latino youth.
- 90% (162) were misdemeanors:
 - o 46% were filed on White youth, 41% on Black/African American youth, and 8% on Hispanic/Latino youth.
- 10% (19) were felony charges:
 - o 42% were filed on White youth, while 26% were filed on Black/African American youth, and 31% were filed on Hispanic/Latino youth.

There are ongoing concerns regarding the higher percentage of school-based complaints filed in Buncombe County compared to the state YASI data (see “*School Domain, Q3 – School-Based Complaints*” on p.2), as well as [reports](#) and FY23 [Racial and Ethnic Disparity \(RED\) data](#) demonstrating inequities in school discipline and referrals to court from both school and community-based referrals.

The JCPC is requesting updated RED data for FY24. Initial reporting indicates that despite making up 25% of the youth population, BIPOC youth faced nearly 67% of complaints received, and may be as

much as 6 times more likely than their White peers to have complaints filed on them. This is a significant increase from last year's preexisting inequities when BIPOC youth were 3 times more likely than White peers to have complaints filed on them. Some of this sharp increase may be linked to practices of "stacking" complaints on individual youth. "Stacking" can happen when an individual commits a series of related offenses where multiple impacted parties may be involved; for example, if a youth is charged with damaging a number of individual mailboxes over the course of one night. Additionally, even for one incident, a youth may receive several charges for the same incident. As mentioned above, the JCPC is requesting a complete RED data report for FY24 in Buncombe County to be able to look into this more deeply, including looking at rates of inequity by individual youth (as opposed to solely by complaint).

YASI Elevated Risks, Needs, & Strengths:

Legal History

Q4 Felony Referrals to DJJ – 21% of the youth assessed had a felony referral. This is lower than the state's rate of 35%.

Q6 Previous Weapon Offense – 10% of the youth assessed had a previous weapon offense. This is lower than the state's rate of 17%.

Family Domain

Q1 Runaway from Home or Placement – 15% of youth reported incidents of running away. This is an increase from 12% the previous year. While under the NC average (21%), it is still of concern especially given gaps in community services. 5% of youth reported being kicked out (NC=5%).

Q4 Family Alcohol/Substance Abuse – 9% of the youth assessed had family members with reported alcohol and/or substance abuse issues compared to the state's rate of 13%.

Q4 Family Member Legal History – 30% of the youth assessed had family members with prior history with the criminal legal system compared to the state's rate of 26%.

Q6 Living Arrangements – 7% of youth assessed were living in foster care, independent living, or another environment rather than living with a parent, sibling, or relative. This is an increase from 4% last year though still less than the NC rate of 9%.

Q7 Parent/Custodian Supervision – 89% of youth assessed in Buncombe reported good/some supervision (NC=80%), while 9% reported some/frequently inadequate supervision (an increase from 4% in FY23).

School Domain

Q1/Q10 School Enrollment Status – 4% of youth assessed were suspended at the point of assessment (NC=3%). Over the previous 2 years, 75% had been assigned one or more OSS (NC=66%) and 54% had been assigned one or more ISS (NC=37%).

Q2 School Attendance – 16% of youth assessed had 5 or more unexcused absences (NC=21%).

Q3 School-Based Complaints – Despite the overall decrease in School-Based Complaints this year, youth who qualified for the School Domain of YASI questions experienced higher percentages of police reports filed by schools than the state average: only 9% of youth assessed experienced interventions by school administrators (NC=12%), while 45% of youth assessed had police reports filed by school (24%).

Q4 Academic Performance – 14% of youth assessed were failing some classes (NC=16%), and 12% were failing most classes (NC=15%).

Q12 School Activities – 33% of the youth assessed were interested in school activities but they were not involved in those activities (NC=29%). 33% of the youth assessed had no interest and were not involved in school activities (NC=31%).

Community & Peers Domain

Q1 Peers/Associates – 29% of youth assessed reported spending time with friends with negative influence, and 14% reported having no friends or companions (an increase from 10% in FY23).

Alcohol/Drugs Domain – The following data from the alcohol/drug domain represents youth who answered “Yes” to alcohol and/or drug use. Out of youth assessed for Buncombe County, 34% of youth answered “Yes” to alcohol and/or drug use (an increase from 29% in FY23).

Q1 Age at 1st Use – Of the youth who answered “Yes” to alcohol and/or drug use: 10% reported being under 12 years old at first use compared to 11% across the state; 74% reported first use between the ages of 12-15 compared to the state’s rate of 78%.

Q1 Use Disrupts Function – 27% of the youth who answered “Yes” to alcohol and/or drug use stated that the usage disrupted their daily functions. This typically indicates that treatment is warranted. The state’s rate was 30%.

Mental Health Domain – 40% of Buncombe youth assessed answered yes to having mental health problems and to being diagnosed with a mental health disorder, compared with 39% of youth assessed across the state. 26% of youth assessed were currently receiving mental health treatment.

Q5 History of Abuse (by a parent including biological, step, adopted, and legal guardians) – 8% of the youth assessed reported a history of physical abuse (NC=9%). 5% of youth assessed reported a history of sexual abuse (NC=6%).

Q6 Victimization History (by a peer or older person) – 5% of youth assessed reported experiences of sexual vulnerability, 3% reported experiences of being bullied, and 6% reported experiencing physical assault.

Aggression Domain

Q1 Violence – Of Buncombe youth assessed, 7% had displayed a weapon (NC 11%), 4% had used a weapon (NC 8%), 12% had indications of bullying/threatening (NC 23%), 7% of destruction of property (NC 12%), 42% of assaultive behavior (NC 41%), and 3% of assault with a serious injury (NC 5%).

Employment and Free Time Domain

Q1 Employment – 24% of youth assessed were currently employed, 68% had never been employed, and 14% reported prior successful employment.

Q5 & Q6 Free Time – 33% of youth assessed participated in one or more structured activities, and 43% participated in one or more unstructured activities.

Part II. Summary of Community Resources

See attached [Youth Resource Guide](#) (Continuum of Services).

Part III. Summary of Gaps and Barriers in the Continuum of Services

- **Restitution/Community Service** to address needs for positive peer support and provide diversion and restitution pathways for court-involved youth. *Earn and Learn is a necessary service used regularly by court services; not available without JCPC funding.*
- **Restorative Services/Restorative Justice/Teen Court/Conflict Resolution**, particularly to address school conflict, needs for positive peer support, and to provide alternative responses to reduce school-based complaints for youth with low risks and low needs. *While restorative practices are being implemented in some schools, there is a need for more Restorative Justice diversion opportunities and alternative responses when harm has occurred. Teen Court is a diversion used regularly by court services that also receives referrals directly from schools. Umoja and UNETE are in their first year of JCPC funding to provide restorative practices services for youth as well.*
- **Interpersonal and Experiential Skill-building** to address school conflict, the need for positive peer support, mental health needs, and conflict in the home. *Kids at Work! and PIVOTPoint are JCPC-funded diversion programs that support building these skills.*
- **Vocational Skill-building**, particularly to address needs for employment and structured activities. *Offered through some community programs and JCPC-funded programs The Connection and Kids at Work!. More vocational skill-building is an identified need for community-based intervention to prevent future court involvement.*
- **Tutoring / Academic Enhancement / Mentoring**, particularly to address needs related to school conflict, attendance, academic performance, and desire for involvement in activities. *Academic tutoring and mentoring are offered through community programs and are a continued need to address identified needs in the school domain.*
- **Substance Misuse/Individual/Group Counseling Services** to address the need for youth at risk of court involvement and those coming through DJJ to access behavioral health services. *Continued need for increased access to substance misuse/individual/group counseling as a community-based intervention.*
- **Parent/Family Skill Building**, particularly to address histories of abuse and/or victimization, conflict in the home, and the need for family supervision skills. *Currently offered through other community programs. Services addressing problems of sexual behavior are provided by TASK (Treatment Alternatives for Sexualized Kids). Services addressing problems of sexual behavior are provided by TASK (Treatment Alternatives for Sexualized Kid) through Intensive Intervention funds, serving DJJ involved youth.*
- **Runaway / Temporary Shelter** to address needs related to incidents of running away from home or placement, history of abuse, and the need for family supervision skills. *There is not a primary resource for temporary and runaway shelter for youth in Buncombe County. When needed, DJJ is currently using community placements funded by other sources.*

Part IV. Proposed Priority Services for Funding

The committee compared the services needed to address the elevated identified risks and needs with services currently available in the community. Priorities were determined, in part, based on ranking dispositional alternatives as top priorities, then diversion programs, and finally other needed services. Through reviewing the Youth Assessment Screening Inventory (YASI) data, and a community resource assessment, the JCPC has determined that the following services are priorities to serve youth who are court-involved and to reduce/prevent future involvement:

- Priority 1: Restitution / Community Service**
- Priority 2: Restorative Services / Restorative Justice / Teen Court / Conflict Resolution**
- Priority 3: Interpersonal /Experiential Skills**
- Priority 4: Vocational Skills**
- Priority 5: Tutoring/Academic Enhancement/Mentoring**
- Priority 6: Substance Misuse/Individual/Group Counseling Services**
- Priority 7: Parent / Family Skill Building**
- Priority 8: Runaway / Temporary Shelter**

These funding priorities are recommended in response to ongoing concerns regarding the high percentage of complaints filed for youth with low levels of risk and need, high strengths, paired with high inequities at the point of referral into the juvenile justice system. The committee recommends increasing alternative pathways to respond to youth behavior and needs, including through behavioral health and restorative justice opportunities, increasing access to other JCPC-funded programs through direct referrals from schools and community partners, and increasing awareness of community-based resources available to support youth.

Part III. Appendix – Additional Data**Overview of Juvenile Court Data – Buncombe County**

The information below shows how JCPC programs are used and the legal status of youth when referred.

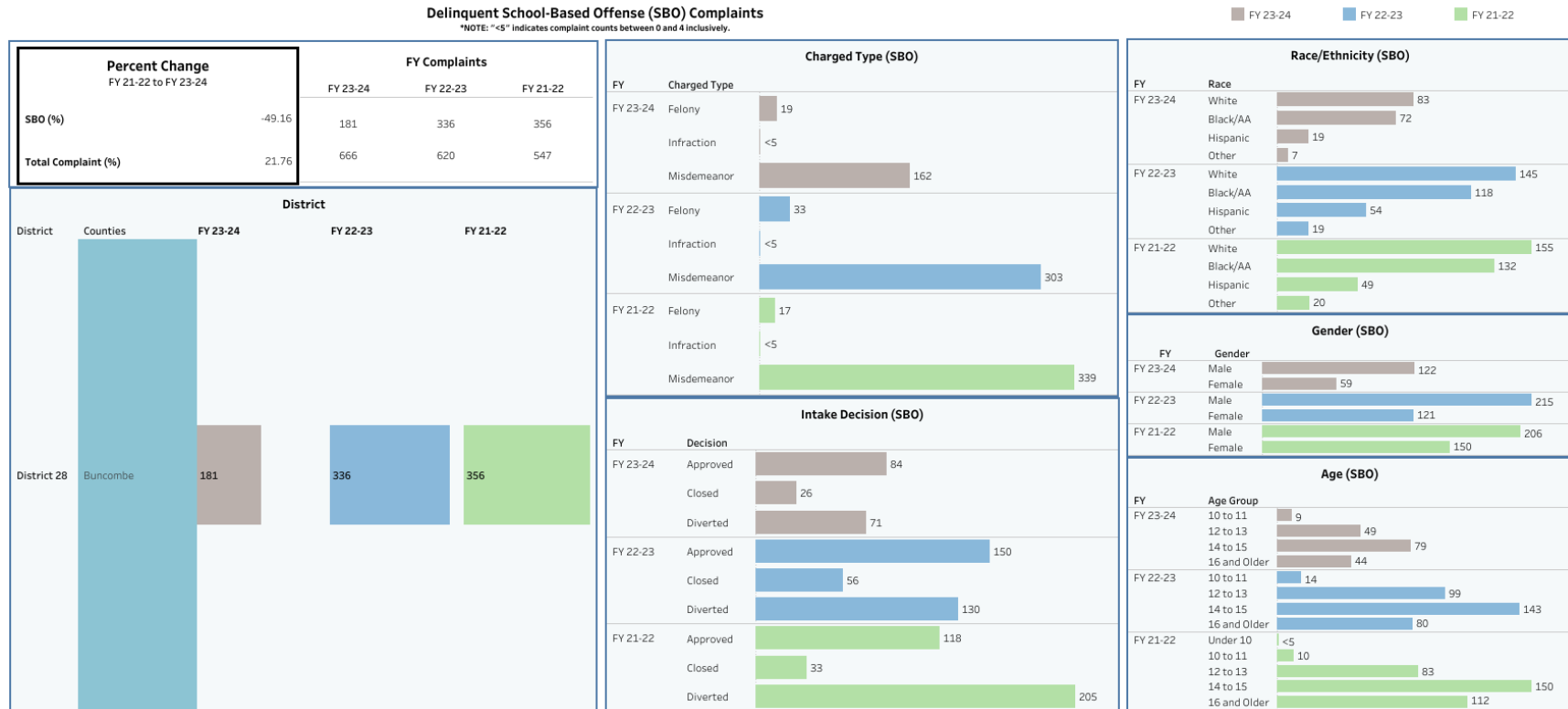
Juvenile Demographics	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Youth Population ages 6-17	34,120	34,039	33,440	33,167	33,002
Youth Population ages 10-17		23,312	22,994	22,736	22,660
Youth Population ages 16 & 17		5,900	6,028	6,095	6,095
Youth seen in Intake	337	256	456	385	254
Youth Put on Diversion Plans or Contracts	153	131	261	151	98
Youth Approved for Court	155	125	171	201	128
Youth Adjudicated	68	77	70	106	65
Youth Put on Protective Supervision	22	15	17	16	3
Youth Put on Probation	38	61	51	86	54
Number of Detention Admissions	54	48	47	53	33
Number of Youth Committed to YDC	1	2	3	1	1
Number of Youth put on Post-Release Supervision	1	2	2	5	3
Number of School-Based Complaints		94	401	340	190
Number of Total Complaints		457	696	695	690
Percentage that were School-Based Complaints	49.00%	20.57%	57.61%	48.92%	27.54%

JCPC Program Participants Legal Status at Referral to Program (from NC JOIN Data)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Youth at Risk	35	15	46	37	34
Court Counselor Consultation	123	15	2	2	4
Vulnerable Juvenile (<i>youth under age 10</i>)				1	3
SRO/Law Enforcement Diversion					1
Intake/Diverted	69	35	134	89	52
Petition Filed	0	2	3	1	7
Deferred Prosecution	3	0	0	0	0
Adjudicated Undisciplined, Disposition Pending	0	1	0	0	0
Adjudicated Delinquent, Disposition Pending	3	3	1	0	0
Protective Supervision	2	0	0	2	0
Probation	24	32	14	30	28
Committed	0	0	0	0	0
Post Release Supervision	0	0	0	0	0
Continuation Services	0	0	1	0	0
Interstate Compact	0	0	0	0	0
Total	259	103	201	162	129

Buncombe Program Admissions by Legal Status 23-24 (Pulled from NC ALLIES Data)

Program Name	Court Counselor Consultation	Youth at Risk	Voluntary Juvenile (under age 10)	Intake/ Diverted	SRO/Law Enforcement Diversion	Petition Filed	Adjudicated	Probation	Protective Supervision	Referred from District Court	Interstate Compact (ICJ)	Continuation Services	Committed	Total
Buncombe Structured Day	2	3	1	3		1								10
Buncombe County Youth Justice Clinical Program				5		3								8
Teen Court		25		16	1									42
Earn and Learn		2		11				13						26
Aspire - The Connection			1	3				3						7
Aspire -Kids at Work!	2	5	1	7		1		2						18
PIVOTPoint WNC				5		2		10						17
	4	35	3	50	1	7	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	128

Buncombe County Risks, Needs, & Strengths Assessment Summary, December 2024



Reference: North Carolian Department of Public Safety, Juvenile Justice, School-Justice Partnership Dashboard, available at <https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/juvenile-justice/datastatisticsreports/school-justice-partnership-dashboard>.

\$644,477**30%****1/28/2025****Anticipated Annual Allocation****Required Local Match Rate****Date Advertised****Buncombe County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council – Request for Proposals**

The Buncombe County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) studied risks, needs, and strengths of youth involved in Juvenile Court and hereby publishes this RFP. The JCPC anticipates \$644,477 from the NC Dept. of Public Safety (NCDPS) to fund program types listed below that serve court-involved youth and youth at-risk of court-involvement. The JCPC will approve 1-to-2-year awards (FY25-FY27) beginning on or after July 1, 2025, depending on JCPC approval and programs meeting all requirements. **Local programs must provide a match of 30%.**

Based on identified needed programs and possible gaps in the [service continuum](#), the following program types will be considered for funding:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Restitution / Community Service | 5) Tutoring / Academic Enhancement / Mentoring |
| 2) Restorative Services / Restorative Justice / Teen Court / Conflict Resolution | 6) Substance Misuse/Individual/Group Counseling Services |
| 3) Interpersonal / Experiential Skills | 7) Parent / Family Skill Building |
| 4) Vocational Skills | 8) Runaway / Temporary Shelter |

Programs that reduce risks, address needs, and increase protective factors for youth will be considered for funding. Elevated risks and needs identified for youth in Buncombe County by the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI) include the following: (See linked [Summary Risk & Needs Report, December, 2024](#))

- Need for positive peer influence, friends, and companions.
- Mental Health (including history of abuse and victimization)
- Alcohol/Substance Use (Age at 1st use and support those whose use disrupts function)
- Family Alcohol/Substance Use
- Assaultive behavior
- Runaway from Home or Placement
- Employment and Free Time (including increasing participation in structured and unstructured activities)
- School Enrollment, Attendance, Conflict, Academic Performance, Engagement with Activities

Applicants should provide:

- Services that are effective with youth and families involved with the juvenile justice system and align with NCDPS JCPC Minimum Standards (linked [here](#)).
- Services that are outcome-based and have an evaluation component.
- Awareness of and sensitivity to [Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the County](#).

Only local public agencies, 501c3 non-profit organizations and local housing authorities will be considered for funding.

Interested organizations are required to complete an online application at the NC Dept of Public Safety website.

Application instructions are linked here: [Program Agreement Information | NC DPS](#). Private non-profits are also required to submit: 1) No Over Due Tax form, 2) DPS Conflict of Interest Statement, 3) Agency Conflict of Interest Policy, and 4) Proof of 501(c)(3) status.

New Applicants are required to attend a JCPC Program Application Orientation Workshop on Thurs. Feb. 6 at 1:30 pm via Webex. Contact Lorraine Williams (info below) to register.

- **Application submission deadline is Tuesday, Mar. 4, 2025, by 5pm.** All applications must be submitted in [NCALLIES](#).
- **Applicants will be required to present their proposal during an all-day Allocations Hearing on March 12th.**

For more info, please contact:

- JCPC Administrator, Hannah.Legerton@buncombecounty.org, 828-250-4087
- NCDPS Area Consultant, Lorraine.williams@ncdps.gov, 828-405-4056 (Application technical assistance & workshop)

The deadline for submitting an application: 03/04/25 by 5pm

**Submit on [NCALLIES](#) and email a copy to Hannah.Legerton@buncombecounty.org.
Contact Lorraine Williams for support.**

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Funding Decisions Summary

Funding Decision for:	FY 2025-2026	Date Completed:	5/20/2025
Program(s) Funded	Select 1-year or 2-year funding and reason(s) for Funding (Check all that apply)		
Teen Court (Buncombe Alternatives)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY2025-2026 and 2026-2027 OR <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY		
	<p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>		
Earn and Learn (Buncombe Alternatives)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY2025-2026 and 2026-2027 OR <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY		
	<p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain: Restitution</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>		
Kids at Work! & The Connection (Aspire – Buncombe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY2025-2026 and 2026-2027 OR <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY		
	<p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>		
PIVOTPoint WNC (PIVOTPoint WNC)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY2025-2026 and 2026-2027 OR <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY		
	<p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>		

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Funding Decisions Summary

<p>Umoja and UNETE Restorative Practices Program (Umoja Health Wellness & Justice Collective)</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY2025-2026 and 2026-2027 </div> <div>OR</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY </div> </div> <p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY _____ and _____ </div> <div>OR</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY </div> </div> <p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY _____ and _____ </div> <div>OR</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY </div> </div> <p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> 2-year Funding approved for FY _____ and _____ </div> <div>OR</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> 1-year Funding approved for FY </div> </div> <p>Rationale for 2-year Funding approval: <input type="checkbox"/> Funded in past _____ years <input type="checkbox"/> In good standing with county/JCPC and DPS (following PA, timely reports, reporting to JCPC as requested) <input type="checkbox"/> Favorable JCPC monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> In compliance with Consultant Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Service Assessment (QOS) rating is min 70% (min. score of 14) OR progress made on PEP in QOS. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides an essential dispositional option, explain:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Meets target population as described in Program Agreement (<i>number served, and described target population</i>), with minimal exceptions (i.e. less than 10% variance)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Meets funding priority <input type="checkbox"/> Compatible with research <input type="checkbox"/> Cost efficient <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses reductions of complaints, violations of supervision & convictions <input type="checkbox"/> Has evaluation component <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses parental accountability <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses use of alcohol/controlled substances <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses restitution to victims <input type="checkbox"/> Addresses gang participation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Would increase funding to this service if funds were available <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Other _____</p>

Program Enhancement Plan

Program:

Buncombe County Teen Court

Brief
Description:

Teen Court is a diversion from juvenile court and an alternative to out of school suspension created for first-time offenders who have admitted guilt. Clients are given the opportunity to take responsibility for their offense by participating in court proceedings held by trained youth and adult volunteers. Teen Court does not decide guilt or innocence but centers on lowered recidivism through restorative justice.

Category	SPEP Score	Enhancement Opportunity	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Comments:
Primary Service Supplemental Services	0				This program does not have enough research to support a SPEP Primary Service Type
Quality of Service Delivery	18	<p>Program Evaluation: Data on clients served pre and post programming will be collected and provide evaluation results to track effectiveness</p> <p>Program Policies and Procedures: Create and implement a set of policy and procedures for tracking staff hours for direct referrals/tracking recidivism rates for SBTC and SJP direct referrals</p> <p>Structured Training and Program Documentation: Establish a more consistent volunteer and in-kind tracking system</p>	<p>Secure Funding for on-line Forward-Thinking journaling options for clients. All staff and interns receive the on-line training for data entry</p> <p>Continue to ensure Asheville City Schools and Buncombe County Schools are trained and understand the direct referral and SBTC options through flow chart, power point and calendar to educate the direct referral process for the court staff, SRO's/ School Administration and DSS</p> <p>Create enhancements to support the QOS and Program plan of work. Create a more fluid in-kind tracking system to track, courthouse and school hours, volunteer hours and validation.</p>	<p>All Staff and Interns</p> <p>Executive Director/Director of Teen Court Programs/School Admin/School Resource officers /DJJ and DSS</p>	<p>Completed: on-line options purchased</p> <p>Completed: Staff trained</p> <p>In-process and on-going: intern training</p> <p>Completed and in-process: School Administrators trained and informed of the School Based Teen Court options and direct referral process completed by Jan 2025</p> <p>Completed and on-going: Court Staff, School Admin, SRO's and DSS are attending and receiving proper information to assist with direct referrals</p> <p>Completed and on-going: services are readily available and delivered by agency standards.</p> <p>Completed and on-going: annually revisited and enhanced, using observation data to ensure stake holders and</p>

Program Enhancement Plan

		Re-evaluate the current staff and volunteer tracking system for training	Have a system in place for staff signatures and validation of hours and scheduled trainings Track community Engagement – tracking clients who we process but do not participate tracking referring agencies training/observation sessions	Board of Directors/ Executive Director/Director of Teen Court Programs/Program Staff/Intern/Adults and youth volunteers	partnering/referring agencies are attending teen court sessions and trainings. This program was a part of the state-wide studies to show its effectiveness through traditional program delivery. Tracking the direct referrals through SJP that are processed- yet do not participate – used for retention and development purposes and future best practices
Amount of Service: Duration and Contact Hours	0				
Risk Level of Youth					
Total	18				

This Plan is approved by: Karen Peerson 2-1-2025 Jorge Redmond 2-17-2025
 Program Manager Name & Signature Date JCPC Chair Name & Signature Date

Program Enhancement Plan

Program:

Earn & Learn Community Service and Restitution

Brief
Description:

Earn & Learn is the community service/restitution program in Buncombe County. This program works with youth assigned community service hours and/or given a monetary compensation requirement for victims provided through DJJ. Through supervised, assigned work and evidence-based journaling, juveniles provide important service to the community, are held accountable for their actions, and given the opportunity to acknowledge any harm they may have caused

Category	SPEP Score	Enhancement Opportunity	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Comments:
Primary Service Supplemental Services	10 5				Earn and Learn is a Group 2 and can only gain 10 points plus 5 supplemental
Quality of Service Delivery	14	<p>Program Evaluation: Data on clients served pre and post programming will be collected and provide evaluation results to track effectiveness</p> <hr/> <p>Program Policies and Procedures: Create a more specific set of policy and procedures for tracking site supervisor hours. Develop a training to include site reviews and evaluations to streamline effectiveness</p> <hr/> <p>Structured Training and Program Documentation: Re-evaluate and create a more consistent volunteer and in-kind tracking system</p> <hr/> <p>Re-evaluate the current staff and volunteer tracking system for training</p>	<p>Secure Funding for on-line Forward-Thinking journaling options for clients. All staff and interns receive the on-line training for data entry</p> <hr/> <p>Ensure community service sites and supervisors are trained annually. Continue to elaborate and collaborate with community partners</p> <hr/> <p>Create a specific training to educate the community partners and site supervisors and stakeholders</p> <hr/> <p>Create/keep current/ maintain a tracking system for site supervisors, trainings and donate space and time and validate</p> <hr/> <p>Have a system in place for staff signatures and validation of hours and scheduled trainings</p>	<p>All Staff and Interns</p> <hr/> <p>Executive Director/ Director of Community Service & Restitution/Program Staff/Site Supervisors Adult Volunteers/ board members, interns and DJJ staff</p>	<p>Completed: on-line options purchased</p> <p>Completed: staff trained</p> <p>In-process and on-going: intern training</p> <hr/> <p>Completed and In-process and on-going: training and site contracts and site reviews completed in June 2024 and will happen again through the remainder of 2025.</p> <p>Completed and on-going: court staff & community partners and site supervisors are attending and receiving the proper materials and tracking documentation.</p> <hr/> <p>Completed and on-going: gathered feedback from community partners. Tracking systems and validation process are created completed each quarter.</p> <hr/> <p>Completed and on-going: systems are in place and are calculated regularly for staff and volunteers and clients</p>

Program Enhancement Plan

Amount of Service: Duration and Contact Hours	6	Duration and Contact Hours: Re-evaluate and create an extension of services through intake/and community service	Create an extension of services through DPS, J. Target population policy 1 and 2 and K. Referral Source to provide positive experiences/reminders and develop useful skills through Alternative life skill/pro social opportunities.	Executive Director/ Director of Community Service & Restitution/ Teen Court staff/ interns and volunteers	Completed and in-process and on-going: created an extension of services to our clients with the intent to connect their skills and experiences at the time of intake throughout the duration of their contract with our agency and beyond through reinforcement and incentive. Flash Resume' – Art and Feeling – Build your Character – examples of how we will expand our duration and contact hours Creating new policies and procedures for our Target population and for youth needing to complete community service.
Risk Level of Youth	13				

Total
POP

48
60% out of 80%

This Plan is approved by: Karen K. Peerson 2-11-2025

Name &

Signature

Date

Jorge Redmond 2-17-2025

JCPC Chair Name & Signature

Date

Program/Component:	Aspire Kids at Work! Interpersonal Skill Building Buncombe County
Brief Description:	Kids At Work is an interpersonal skills development program based around the culinary arts. Youth are a part of the program for 16 weeks and meet for three hours once a week for instruction. The curriculum consists of 24 hands-on lessons that are designed to meet the clients unique learning styles and help them apply the skills in a work environment. Youth ages 15 and older also receive training to become certified in ServSafe food safety, making them more marketable to employers.

Category	SPEP Score	Enhancement Opportunity	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Progress Report: Describe progress made, include date, what has been completed, in process or no progress
Primary Service	15				
Qualifying Supplemental Service	5				
Quality of Service Delivery	11				
Amount of Service: Duration and Contact Hours	10	Improve Duration and contact hours for Youth in programming & perfect Staff input into NC Allies	1. Train Staff on proper duration and Contact hours per Program Type; 2.Train Staff on proper termination of youth in NC Allies 3. Encouragment of youth that are no longer court ordered to reamin in the program until successful completion; 4. Scheduled review of NC Allies Terminations to assure they are done correctly	Program Supervisors, Managers, District Leads	Scheduled Training for new and existing staff on SPEP terminology and how to correctly terminate in NC Allies.
Risk Level of Youth	5				
Total SPEP Score	46				
POP	54%				

This Plan is approved by:	<i>Kimberly Castano</i>	02.10.2025	<i>Jorge Redmond</i>	05.20.2025
	Program Manager Signature	Date	JCPC Chair Signature	Date

Program/Component:	Aspire Connection Vocational Skill Building Buncombe County
Brief Description:	.Technology opens up new vocational options for the next generation that are not age-restricted. The Connection program teaches youth entrepreneurial and vocational skills through a music/cinema production job training program. Learning is project-based and designed to prepare youth for employment, higher education, and/or business ownership. Youth with a wide range of abilities and work preferences will find a role that fits them best, from the artistically-inclined to the technically-minded.

Category	SPEP Score	Enhancement Opportunity	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Progress Report: Describe progress made, include date, what has been completed, in process or no progress
Primary Service	5				
Qualifying Supplemental Service	0				
Quality of Service Delivery	14				
Amount of Service: Duration and Contact Hours	2	Improve Duration and contact hours for Youth in programming & perfect Staff input into NC Allies	1. Train Staff on proper duration and Contact hours per Program Type; 2.Train Staff on proper termination of youth in NC Allies 3. Encouragment of youth that are no longer court ordered to reamin in the program until successful completion; 4. Scheduled review of NC Allies Terminations to assure they are done correctly	Program Supervisors, Managers, District Leads	Scheduled Training for new and existing staff on SPEP terminology and how to correctly terminate in NC Allies.
Risk Level of Youth	17				
Total SPEP Score	38				
POP	51%				

This Plan is approved by: *Kimberly Castano*

02.10.2025

Jorge Redmond

05.20.2025

Program Manager Signature

Date

JCPC Chair Signature

Date

Program Enhancement Plan (PEP)

Program | PIVOTPoint WNC--Interpersonal Skills Program

Brief Description: PIVOTPoint WNC is a 10-week therapeutic adventure-based program comprised of 4-6 hour sessions hiking, climbing, rafting, paddleboarding, or mountain biking. Activities are paired with in-depth individualized goals and group facilitation that focus on communication skills, core value identification, personal agency development, and healthy peer interaction, while helping clients identify areas of strength and resilience.

Category	SPEP Score	Enhancement Opportunity	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Progress Report: Describe progress made, include date, what has been completed, in process or no progress
Primary Service	15				
Qualifying Supplemental Service	5	Full requirement met.	N/A		
Quality of Service Delivery	19	Increase/expand our referral base beyond sole court counselors to maximum our outreach	1. Dedicated engagement for direct school-based referrals. 2. Meet with Buncombe County SRO captains to discuss our program and the referral process. 3. Meet with the individual school district SROs and discuss are program and referral process before kids end up within the court system (prevention).	Program Director	We have already had a meeting with the SRO captains in December 2024. Currently organizing meetings with the individual SROs at the schools.
Amount of Service: Duration and Contact Hours	10	PIVOTPoint is a 10-week program and will never reach the 16-week target mark; however our contact hours will always exceed by double or even triple the target hour requirement.	We will continue to not meet the 16-week duration requirement of our SPEP score but will always exceed the contact hour requirement.	Program Director	
Risk Level of Youth	13	N/A	N/A	Program Director	
Total SPEP Score	62				
POP	73%				

This Plan is approved by:
Program Manager Signature

Date

George Redmond

2/7/25

JCPC Chair Signature

Date

Matthew B Nannis

Date: 2/6/2025

Brief Program Descriptions, FY2025 – 2026

For Programs without a Program Enhancement Plan

Umoja and UNETE Restorative Practices Program, Umoja Health Wellness & Justice Collective

NAME OF COMPONENT: Umoja and UNETE Restorative Practices Program

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Umoja Health Wellness & Justice Collective

(www.ujahwj.org) and UNETE (www.unetenc.org) will deliver evidence-based restorative services for youth and families engaged with Juvenile Justice in Buncombe County. Based in trauma-informed and resiliency-based curricula at both organizations, we will deliver flexible services within the following modes: mediation, conferencing between affected parties, and circles to reduce recidivism, prevent future complaints, heal trauma, & share resources.

JCPC YOUTH SERVICES

INTERVENTION & PREVENTION RESOURCE GUIDE

FOR BUNCOMBE COUNTY



LAST UPDATED:
December 2024

DEAR BUNCOMBE COUNTY COMMUNITY MEMBERS,

1

We are pleased to introduce the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) Youth Services: Intervention & Prevention Resource Guide for Buncombe County, a compilation of services and support designed to enhance the well-being and development of youth in our community.

North Carolina established JCPCs in the late 1990s as a state & local partnership to provide alternatives to youth development centers (YDCs) and offer noninstitutional dispositional interventions that protect both the community and youth. Buncombe County faces challenges with high numbers of youth referred to the Juvenile Justice system who have low-risk levels, very low needs, and very high strengths (see JCPC [Summary Risk & Needs Report, December, 2024](#)). Additionally, concerns persist about the high percentage of school-based complaints filed in Buncombe County compared to the state, and recent reports demonstrating inequities in school discipline and referrals to court from the [ACLU](#) and the [NCDPS Division of Juvenile Justice](#).

Consistent with research across the country, in May 2023 the NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission published a Juvenile Recidivism Study ([linked here](#)), which noted: “the lowest levels of recidivism correspond to the least invasive systemic responses of the juvenile justice system, particularly by intervening with youth short of adjudication... this report and past report findings indicate the most efficient and effective investment of sufficient resources is in the community, at the front end of the juvenile justice system.”

Aligning with these findings, the JCPC advocates for increasing alternative pathways to respond to youth behavior and needs, emphasizing behavioral health and restorative justice opportunities, increasing access to other JCPC-funded programs through direct referrals from school and community partners, and increasing awareness of community-based resources available to support youth.

Please explore this resource guide as a reference point for programs, interventions, and support available to our youth. We hope that by centralizing this information, we can foster a more informed and connected community, working collaboratively to uplift and empower the next generation. We look forward to a collaborative effort in building a stronger, safer, and more supportive community for our youth.

Sincerely,

Jorge Redmond, Chair, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, Senior Attorney, Buncombe County Sheriff's Office

Hannah Legerton, Youth Justice Division Manager, Buncombe County Justice Services

engage.buncombecounty.org/juvenilecrimepreventioncouncil

The purpose of this resource guide is to document a continuum of services available for youth. The following is a list of existing resources – it is not a measure of resource effectiveness and/or sustainability.

Buncombe County JCPC Funded Programs: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

JCPC programs serve youth involved in the court system – or at risk of involvement – through intervention, diversion, treatment, and aftercare to support families and community safety.

- **Aspire Youth & Family:** 828-556-1155 or 828-226-5533, robin@aspirenc.org.
 - Kids At Work! Interpersonal skills development program for 12 to 17 year-olds to learn cooking skills, better methods of communication, skills to get hired for jobs, and gain ServSafe Certification. Participants do not have to be enrolled in school to participate.
 - The Connection Youth learn entrepreneurial and vocational skills through a music production job training program.
- **Buncombe Alternatives:**
 - Teen Court Diversion from juvenile court and alternative to suspension for youth who take responsibility for low-level behaviors by participating in court proceedings held by trained youth and adult volunteers. Teen Court does not decide guilt or innocence but centers on lowered recidivism through restorative justice. (828)707-2113, jamielee@buncombealternatives.org.
 - Earn and Learn: Restorative Community Service Works with youth assigned community service and/or given a monetary compensation requirement. Through supervised, assigned work and evidence-based journaling, youth provide important service to the community, are held accountable for their actions, and given the opportunity to acknowledge harm they may have caused. (828)707-3800, juan@buncombealternatives.org.
- **PIVOTPoint WNC** Therapeutic adventure- and nature-based interventions for youth ages 14+ who are court-involved, diverted, or at-risk of court involvement. Introduces personal agency development and pro-social skills, reducing substance use and recidivism, using CBT, Experiential Coaching, Mindfulness-based practice, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, and Person-Centered therapy. (828) 560-3123, admissions@pivotpointwnc.com.
- **Umoja Health Wellness & Justice Collective + UNETE** Restorative Practices Program uses trauma and resiliency-based curriculums to deliver flexible services for youth and families including: mediation, conferencing between affected parties, and circles to reduce recidivism, prevent future complaints, heal trauma, & share resources. Umoja: (828) 490-5774, umojahwjcollective@gmail.com, UNETE: (828) 273-9065, contactus@unetenc.org.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

3

This continuum starts with prevention and moves towards graduated interventions.

MENTORING

Umoja's HOPE (Healing Our Past Experiences) 4 the Future

A free after school and summer camp for school aged children and teens. This program is trauma-informed, culturally aligned and knows that by reaching these youth now, so they are more likely to avoid risky behaviors such as substance use and violence, in their future. To refer someone or register for the HOPE 4 the Future program go the website linked here. <https://www.umojahwj.org/programs> or contact Michael Hayes the Executive Director at 828-490-5774 or email by at umojahwjcollective@gmail.com.

UNETE's Mentoring and Nurturing Our Students (M.A.N.O.S)

To encourage Latino youth to consider a path to college and careers, this program was created in 2009 and continues to provide a safe space for students and their parents to cultivate a culture of academic achievement, social engagement, and community accountability. More information about the M.A.N.O.S program can be accessed through their website linked here <https://unetenc.org/> or by calling (828) 273-9065.

Youth Transformed for Life (YTL)

G.R.A.C.E. for Teens Afterschool, Summer Camp, G.R.A.C.E for R.O.S.E.S/M.O.S.S, YTL G.R.A.C.E for Girls Elementary, YTL G.R.A.C.E for Boys, and YTL G.R.A.C.E for Teens Advocacy and Outreach programs were created to assist disadvantaged youth in reaching and exceeding their personal, educational, and professional goals by equipping them with effective communication skills; supporting and advocating for them in the school system; investing time and resources, and creating experiences that will enhance their self-worth and improve their vision for the future. <http://ytltraining.org/programs/>. For more information call YTL Training Program at (828)407-8979 or email ytltraining@gmail.com.

My Daddy Taught Me That

Serves youth in grades 6 - 12, ages 10-19, and is developing an ambassador program for young adults. The program serves many kids in public housing but is not limited to public housing residents. The mission is to assist in the development of young males into Righteous, Respectable and Responsible Men through empowerment, education and support. Applications for the My Daddy taught me That as well as the Junior Program are available on the website linked here <https://mydaddytaughtmethat.org/>. For more information call MDTMT at (828) 582 2261.

Open Doors

The Mentorship programming includes Academic/tutoring program, enrichment activities, quarterly guest Teaching, and AVL Rise. Open Doors Asheville supports students' kindergarten through college age. Students can be referred directly through their website <https://opendoorsasheville.org/>. For more info call Open Doors at 828-239-8811.

Word on the Street/La Voz de les Jóvenes, Arteria Collective

A program that centers the leadership and creativity of black and brown teens, through arts-based programming and opportunities for participants to develop healthy relationships with peers and mentors, while working to make a difference in their community using their voices, talents and imaginations. For more information visit <https://arteriacollective.org>, call WOTS/VDLJ at (828)505-8377, or email wots.vdlj@gmail.com.

Big Brothers/ Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western North Carolina offers three mentoring programs—each of which provides its own unique opportunities for your child to engage with their Big Brother or Big Sister. There is no cost to participate in any of our programs. To enroll a child, visit the website at <https://www.bbbswnc.org/new-littles-enrollment-form/> or email the enrollment and matching specialist Jennifer Griffin at jenniferg@bbbswnc.org.

Journeymen

Journeymen mentorship programming supports adolescent males ages 12-17. The programs' goal is to help male-identified youth step into new aspects of themselves, allowing an opportunity to let go of old patterns that no longer serve, while stepping into a new more integrated identity. Through their partnership with United Way, they offer mentoring groups in several Buncombe County Schools (A.C. Reynolds middle and Highschool, North Buncombe Middle School, Clyde A. Erwin Middle School, and Enka Middle School). Prospective Mentors and Mentees for all Journeymen programs can apply through their website <https://journeymenasheville.org>. For more information contact Journey Men at (828) 771-6344 or email journeymenasheville@gmail.com.



PARENT/FAMILY SKILLS

MotherLove YWCA

MotherLove YWCA is for pregnant and parenting teens, to help support them staying in school, having access to higher education and vocational training, develop skills needed for strong parenting, and delay another pregnancy. YWCA provides MotherLove to each high school. MotherLove provides additional case management services and group meeting to encourage the student to stay in school and graduate. For more information on the YWCA programing contact the MotherLove Coordinator at 828.254.7206 x 205 or by email at motherlove@ywcaofasheville.org.

Project NAF

Nurturing Asheville and Area Families is a program offered through the Mount Zion Community Development Program and supported by NC Dept of HHS and Buncombe County. Programs offered include prenatal and postnatal support, coordination of childcare and transportation, perinatal smoking cessation, breastfeeding, and empowerment plan. With questions or to access this resource contact Belinda Grant at (828) 776-1427. For more information on this program visit their website <https://www.mtzionasheville.org/mzcd-inc/naf/>.

SistasCaring4Sistas

Sistas Caring 4 Sistas is a community-based doula program founded by women of color for women of color who could benefit from this evidence-based form of birth support. Their mission is to reduce adverse birth-related outcomes among individuals of color by providing doula services, advocacy, and education with a vision to eliminate the barriers contributing to birth-related inequities among persons of color. For more information visit their website <https://www.sistascaring4sistas.org/> or contact SC4S at (828) 620-9828 or email them at doulaup@sistascaring4sistas.org.

MAHEC Ob-Gyn

MAHEC provides comprehensive patient-centered obstetrical and gynecological care including working with adolescents, substance use disorder treatment, and high-risk of pregnancies. For more information visit the MAHEC Ob-Gyn Teen Services website <https://mahec.net/obgyn/index>. To contact MAHEC call (828) 771-5500.

Services provided include:

- Teen Services
- Project CARA: Substance use disorder treatment for pregnant and parenting people
- Centering Pregnancy

Triple P: Positive Parenting Program

Triple P Positive Parenting Program is an evidence-based program that gives parents the skills they need to build strong family relationships, manage misbehavior and prevent problems happening in the first place. Offered through groups and seminars. To access these resources call (828) 257-4456 or email triplep@mahec.net.

Circle of Security Parenting Classes

Circle of Security™ Parenting: Join other parents for an 8-week class to strengthen parent-child relationships. Interventions focus on helping caregivers reflect upon children's attachment needs to promote secure attachment with a child. The training is built for parents and caregivers of children 2 months to 6 years old. For more info go to the <https://buncombepfc.org/for-families/circle-of-security/> or call 828-285-9333. Classes provided through:

- Buncombe Partnership for Children
- Verner Early Learning Center
- Mountain Child Advocacy
- Resources for Resilience
- Buncombe HHS (REQUIRES DSS REFERRAL)

Verner Early Learning Center

Verner Center for Early Learning is a nonprofit agency providing high quality, affordable early care for children birth to five years old. This program is centered around holistic learning environments. Verner Early Learning Center strives to help build a community where every child and family can thrive. Waitlist Applications for the Early Head Start (ages 0-3) and NC pre-K and Kindergarten readiness are available through their website. Children participating in this programming also have access to the Verner Experiential gardens and Vern's Rainbow in my Tummy Program. Verner Families also have access to the Family Empowerment Program, through this Program Verner Early Learning Center provides one-on-one support and case management to motivated families who want to gain the necessary skills to return to the workforce, increase their income levels, and break the cycle of poverty. For more information go to the Vener website <https://vernerearlylearning.org/family-empowerment-program/> or email info@vernerlearning.org.

Helpmate

Helpmate provides free emergency shelter, counseling, and support for you and your children. Helpmate offers "Talking with Your Teens", a workshop focused on teaching parents how to identify signs of abusive relationships and support their teens in cultivating healthy relationships. For more information about Helpmates extensive services are available on their website <https://helpmateonline.org/services/#outreach>, those seeking more information can also call the Helpmate business line at (828) 254-0516.

First Resource Center for people of all ages with disabilities

FIRSTwnc offers comprehensive services to children, youth and adults with disabilities or at risk of disabilities, young children with a variety of mental wellness and the people who love and support them. Referrals can be sent through their website <https://firstwnc.org/refer/>. Those looking to access this service email FIRSTwnc info@firstwnc.org or via phone by calling 828-277-1315.

SPARC Family Visitation and Parent Coaching Program

The SPARC Foundation supports family reunification through our Family Visitation and Parent Coaching program. SPARC offers professional staff to observe court-ordered visitation between parents and children in foster care. SPARC also has Visitation Coaches for parents in need of guidance and support with parenting skills. SPARC coaches are available to transport children and/or parents to/from visits to reduce transportation barriers. Families often have scheduling challenges that require visits to occur outside the typical 9-5, M-F workday. SPARC coaches will develop schedules with families that work for them in accordance with their court order. Families and individuals can be referred directly on the SPARC foundation website at this link <https://thesparcfoundation.org/family-center-treatment-referral/> More info available through the SPARC Foundation website as well as through email frontoffice@thesparcfoundation.org or phone (828) 552-3771.

Nurse Family Partnership

Nurse-Family Partnership® (NFP), established in Buncombe County in October 2009, has served over 1100 families. NFP is an evidence-based community health program that helps transform the lives of vulnerable mothers who are pregnant. Each mother served by NFP is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child's second birthday. To qualify for enrollment, first-time mothers must be enrolled prior to 29 weeks' gestation, and pregnant mothers with one or more children must be enrolled prior to delivery. For more information or to access this resource visit the Buncombe County Nurse Family Partnership or contact Veronic Watts at Veronica.watts@buncombecounty.org or by calling 828-250-5063.

Mission Children's Family Support Network

Family Support helps families access services and supports it is a community-based approach that increases the strength and resilience of families, supports parents as they help their children with special needs achieve their full potential, improves community providers' capacity to serve families with children who have special needs. The services family support offers are parent to parent support, information and referral, support groups and workshops, and service system navigation support. More information is available through their website <https://missionhealth.org/member-hospitals/childrens/fsn/>. Referrals are accepted from any source by phone, email, mail or in person at the office. To learn more about our services or to make a referral please call Reuter Children's Outpatient Center at [828-213-0047](tel:828-213-0047) or Mission Hospital at 828-213-9787 for inpatient. Referrals can be made via email at MHAV.FamilySupportNetwork@HCAHealthcare.com.

First Resource Center for people of all ages with disabilities

FIRSTwnc offers comprehensive services to children, youth and adults with disabilities or at risk of disabilities, young children with a variety of mental wellness and the people who love and support them. Referrals can be sent through their website <https://firstwnc.org/refer/>. Those looking to access this service email FIRSTwnc info@firstwnc.org or via phone by calling 828-277-1315.

VA Group for Vets with children

PTSD Family Education classes are offered at various points throughout the year and Veterans can obtain referrals to that through their VA provider, as well as Veteran family therapy. For more information or to find out how to access these resources contact Jennifer Holser at Jennifer.Hosler@va.gov.

Christine Avery Early Learning Center

The Christine Avery Early Learning Center provides children with all backgrounds with access to a quality education rooted in sociocultural theory and ministry, assisting in the growth and development of the students academically, socially, and spiritually. Registration for the Early learning program (2- to 4-year-olds) and NC pre-K are available through their website as well as registration for the school aged children's programs which include after school and summer camp. More information on this program can be accessed through their website <https://www.cwalearningcenter.com/school-aged-programs> or by phone at 828-232-7433.

ABCCM Transformation Village

ABCCM Transformation Village provides up to 100 beds of transitional housing for homeless women, mothers with children, and Veterans. Typically serving those who have experienced domestic violence and/or abandonment and are working towards recovery. These services can be accessed by calling Transformation Village at 828-259-5365. Information regarding their other miniseries including Crisis, Medical, and Veterans Services can be accessed through the ABCCM website <https://www.abccm.org/get-help/>. For further support or questions about these services contact ABCCM by email at info@abccm.org or by phone (828) 259-5300.

Blue Ridge Healthy Families - Buncombe

BRHF is a free, voluntary program designed for families that are expectant or have recently delivered a new baby. We seek to provide empathic support that serves to assist families in developing nurturing and responsive parent-child relationships. Highly trained and qualified family support specialists (home-visitors) partner with families to guide their parenting practices, respond to their individual needs, and establish family goals all within the context of child-centered services. For more information go to the Blue Ridge Healthy Families Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BRhealthyfamilies/> or call (828) 682-0047.

De Mujer a Mujer, UNETE

This a grassroots volunteer-based community group founded in 2016 by Latino women as result of focus groups and collaboration between Children First/CIS and Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC) De Mujer A Mujer NC (DMAM) believes in creating a culture which supports women and their families in achieving a comprehensive well-being through equity, solidarity and empowerment. More information about UNETE can be accessed through their website <https://unetenc.org/> and more support or questions regarding these services can be directed to their email contactus@unetenc.org or by phone (828) 273-9065.

Children First Family Resource Centers @ Emma and Estes Elementary

Family Resource Centers at Emma and Estes support families access to resources through a food pantry, SNAP applications, emergency financial assistance, community referrals, and parent workshops. More information about these services are available through Children First Family Resource Centers website <https://childrenfirstcisbc.org/familyresourcecenters/>, further support or questions about these resources can be accessed via phone 828-259-9717 or email info@childrenfirstbc.org.



INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

ASPIRE Kids At Work!

Kids At Work! is an afterschool program designed for kids 12 to 17 years old to learn technical skills of cooking while building better methods of communication. Participants in this program do not have to be enrolled in School to participate. Participants will work to gain their ServSafe Certification as well as to gain skills they will need to get hired for jobs. The referral form can be found on the ASPIRE Kids at Work! website <https://kidsatworknc.com/kaw-referral-form/>. Those interested in more information on the Aspire Kids At Work! services can call the Asheville Office at 828-226-5533 or contact 828-556-1155, robin@aspirenc.org

PIVOTPoint WNC

PIVOTPoint is an innovative therapeutic adventure company that harnesses the power of nature to drive transformation. PIVOTPoint also offers Group Intensives, Family Intensives, and Day Programs Those seeking more information on this resource contact Matt Nannis PIVOTPoint founder at 828-748-8424 or email admissions@pivotpointwnc.com

Mountain Child Advocacy Center, School-based programming

Mountain Child Advocacy Center is setting the standard for the prevention and treatment of neglect and child abuse. Yearly, they teach more than 8,000 children in Buncombe County through highly interactive and research-based classes designed to educate and empower kids. When abuse occurs, they provide access to free, evidence-based therapies that help children heal. To access this information contact MCAC at advocacy@mtncac.org or Colleen Burnett educator@mtncac.org.

Our Voice

Our Voice is an organization with a mission of preventing sexual violence and providing outreach. Youth programs include a 90-minute dating and communication program for middle and high school students; an 11-week "Climbing Toward Confidence" girls empowerment program for 7th-8th grade girls; and an interactive theater program for teens and college students. For more information visit the Our Voice website here <https://www.ourvoicenc.org/programs/#youth>, call the office line (828) 252-0562, or email through this link: <https://www.ourvoicenc.org/contact/>.

Helpmate

Helpmate offers both single- and multi-session Youth Prevention Education programming about healthy dating and dating abuse prevention to youth ages 12-18 in public and private schools, youth groups and summer camps. For more information about Helpmates extensive services are available on their website <https://helpmateonline.org/services/#outreach>, those seeking more information can also call the Helpmate business line at (828) 254-0516.

Community-Based Public Health Response to Violence (CPrV)

The CPrV model focuses on root causes of violence and honors the lived experience of community members whose voices have historically been overlooked or downplayed. One core strategy of CPrV is Youth Leadership Development through Youth Empowerment Solutions (YES). Youth in YES work to change the community as a way to prevent youth violence. Contact William.Baxter@buncombecounty.org or 828-767-2770.

Resources for Resilience

Resource for Resilience offers a wide variety of services including the Ambassadors for Youth (R.A.Y.) program, Circle of Security® Parenting™ (COS-P), Reconnect for Resilience™ (Reconnect), and Reconnect for Resilience™ Implementation Coaching. We offer dynamic tools to support everyone's capacity for wellbeing. The classes and trainings are trauma-informed and resiliency-focused. The effective tools can empower individuals, organizations, and whole communities to handle adversity and remain connected during tough times. For more information about these programs and to find out how to access these resources visit the Resource for Resilience website <https://resourcesforresilience.com/resources-for-resilience-offerings/>, call 828-367-7092, or email information@resourcesforresilience.com.

Light a Path

Light a Path (LAP) offers yoga/fitness instruction for youth, the incarcerated, the unhoused, and those in recovery at community partner locations. Volunteers are trained in racial justice, physical responses to trauma, and trauma-informed wellness. More information is available on their website <https://www.ywcaofasheville.org/light-a-path/>, those interested in accessing this resource or with questions can contact Erika Bowman at lightapath@ywcaofasheville.org or call 828-254-7206 x 229.



EXPERIENTIAL SKILLS

Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run is a confidence skill building program that helps girls build healthy lifestyles. The program is for 10 weeks afterschool for 3rd-5th graders, and a new program, Heart and Soul, continues for girls in middle school. Activities are run at the following school locations: Averys Creek, Black Mtn Primary, Black Mtn Elementary, Claxton, Estes, Glen Arden, Hall Fletcher, Hominy Valley, Invest Collegiate, Ira B. Jones, Isaac Dickson, Leicester, NB, UNC A, Oakley Elementary, and Vance. for more information or to access this resource call (828) 713-4290 or go to the website <https://www.gotrwnc.org/>.

Muddy Sneakers

Muddy Sneakers introduces students to the wonders of the natural world through experiential outdoor education aligned to North Carolina's essential science standards. For more information on Community Programming email info@muddysneakers.org, or call 828-862-5560.

Asheville City Schools Foundation & In Real Life After-School

Asheville City Schools Foundation offers experiential opportunities through the In Real Life Program, or through teacher led opportunities during the school day that the Foundation funds. For more information or to gain access to these services contact Asheville City Schools (828)-350-6174, more information can also be found on the ACSF website <https://www.acsf.org/>, those looking for more information can also email acsf@acsf.org. In Real Life After-school provides high quality, hands-on, equitable, and accessible after school experiences for all Asheville City Schools middle school students. IRL is committed to ensuring that all students have access to opportunities which allow them to explore their interests and ignite their creativity. IRL operates on an affordable sliding scale of \$0-\$75/club and partners with Asheville City Schools transportation to provide bussing around the city and in the evenings. To learn more about the IRL program and to find out how to access this resource reach out IRL Program Coordinator Joshua Wilson at joshua.wilson@acsgmail.net or (828) 747-2247 or Gregory Hall via email at greg@acsf.org or by phone at his office number 828-350-2608 or through the IRL 828-747-2247.



TUTORING/ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT

Partners Unlimited-Structured Day Program

Partners Unlimited is open and accepting Buncombe County/Asheville City school students for Credit Recovery and Long-Term Suspension with the approval of the home school. Transportation not available outside city limits. This program is targeted at youth ages 10 to 18 years old. For students long or short term suspended, or credit recovery. Those interested in accessing this resource should contact Anderson Davis, Partners Unlimited Director, at 828-216-5326 or email p.unlimited18@gmail.com. more information is available through the Partners Unlimited Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/davis.anderson2009/>.

Community Action Opportunities

Community Action Opportunities offers a wide variety of services to both children and families in the community. The Head Start program is a comprehensive child and family development program serving families who live on limited incomes and have children ages 3-5 years old. The Life Works program helps individuals obtain full-time, living wage jobs so they can move out of poverty and obtain economic security. Participants are typically in the program one to three years. The Weatherization Services program helps make home improvements that result in safer and more energy efficient homes. For more information on this program and to learn how to access this contact Community Action Opportunities at (828) 252-2495 or info@communityactionopportunities.org. More information is also available through their website communityactionopportunities.org.

Read to Succeed

Read to Succeed serves youth Kindergarten through 3rd grade. They work with youth who test below expected grade ready level and are referred by their schools for tutoring with trained volunteers. Most are from low-income homes. Currently, offered in six BC elementary schools: Johnston, Candler, Haw Creek, Woodfin, Oakley and Estes; and ACS elementary schools. For more information on this service contact 828-747-2277, email info@r2sasheville.org, or visit their website at <https://www.r2sasheville.org/>.

Youthful HAND

Youthful Hand, Housing Against Narcotics and Drugs (HAND) at Hillcrest Community Center, run by Elinor Earles. Youthful Hand is an enrichment and academic program that works with 5-12-year-olds after school and in summer and 3pm-5:30pm. For questions or for more information contact Executive Director Copland Arnold Rudolph at copland@acsf.org or (828) 350-6174.

Bright Ideas through Isaac Dickson

Bright IDEAS is an extended-day afterschool program that offers safe and fun enrichment opportunities for students enrolled at Isaac Dickson Elementary. Bright IDEAS runs Monday through Friday, 2:30-6:00. Email penny.lewis@acsgmail.net to register with Bright IDEAS Google Group to receive updates.

OpenDoors of Asheville

Open Doors is a local program primarily for youth academic enhancement, but also with individualized education and enrichment opportunities for youth that enhance lifelong social, emotional, cognitive and physical skills. There are three levels of programming for youth, including community level programming, tier 2 programming, and intensive. OpenDoors of Asheville serves children birth-12th grade. Students can be referred directly through their website <https://opendoorsasheville.org/>. For more information call Open Doors at 828-239-8811.

Asheville Middle School After School - In Real Life

Asheville Middle School – In Real Life, IRL is a diverse and engaged network of Service Providers who remove barriers and serve the Social-Emotional and academic needs of Asheville City students. IRL provides transportation, healthy snacks, and integrated support for students during the school day, and wrap-around services for disadvantaged families. IRL programs are fun, hands-on, and high quality. Each year IRL offers over 80 programs in STEM, Health and Wellness, and Humanities. For more info or to access this service contact Gregory Hall via email at greg@acsf.org or by phone at 828-350-2608 or through the IRL 828-747-2247.

Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club

The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club of Buncombe County is a nonprofit youth development organization serving young people of all backgrounds, ethnicities, and life experiences, particularly those who are vulnerable or marginalized. Through after-school services, summer programs, and a teen center, The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club provides a safe place for children to learn and grow, ongoing relationships with caring mentors, and life-enhancing experiences.

Asheville Parks and Rec After School Programs

Asheville Parks and Rec offers many after school programs for young kids and teens including Fun Day Out and Fun Day Out Teen Programs as well as Therapeutic Recreation Fun Day Out. The schedule and registration information for these programs are available through their website linked [here](#); they can also be reached via phone at (828)259-5800.

YWCA of Asheville

YWCA of Asheville Offers many different childcare programs. Pay-By-The-Hour Childcare is designed so busy parents can take care of errands, doctor's appointments, meetings, etc. The Empowerment Childcare is an income verified program that provides up to 12 hours of free childcare per week for parents who are in transition, continuing their education, and/or accessing social services. Many YWCA programs offer childcare including Health & Wellness, MotherLOVE, Getting Ahead, and more. For more information about these resources contact Alesia Summey, Director of Empowerment Childcare at ecc@ywcaofasheville.org or 828-254-7206 x113. More information is also available through the Asheville YWCA website <https://www.ywcaofasheville.org/empowerment-childcare>.

YMCA of Western North Carolina

The YMCA of Western North Carolina offers four different afterschool programming options:

Part-time: this program is offered three days of your choice per week for the school year. Early release care included. Does not include holidays or School's Out days.

Full-time: 41 weeks of program through the school year. Includes afterschool childcare, teacher workdays, snow days, two weeks of care for winter break, spring break and most holidays.

Year-round: 50 weeks of program. Includes afterschool childcare, teacher workdays, snow days, two weeks of care for winter break, spring break, most holidays, and summer day camp. Complimentary household membership to the YMCA. Must register by Aug. 31.

Year-round with Watia upgrade: Comes with the same benefits and coverage as the year-round plan, plus one week at YMCA Camp Watia for children ages 7 and up. Must register by Aug. 31.

To register for these programs, visit their website

<https://ymcawnc.org/programs/children-teens/childcare/afterschool> or email the YMCA Business Center ybc@ymcawnc.org or call 828-251-5910.

Buncombe County Schools McKinney Vento Tutoring

Those who qualify for McKinney-Vento Services are Homeless students are children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term "homeless student" shall also be deemed to include the term "unaccompanied youth", which includes a youth who is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

Asheville City Schools Contact Jordan Mayhew the McKinney-Vento and Foster Care Coordinator at O: 828-350-6266, C: 828 747-1486 or via email at jordan.mayhew@acsgmail.net.

Buncombe County Schools Contact [Shannon Boyd](#) the McKinney-Vento and Foster Care Coordinator and Director of the Buncombe County Schools Family Resource Center at 828-775-1898

Community Schools

Homework Diners:

- Asheville Middle
- Enka Middle
- Owen Middle
- Erwin Middle
- A.C. Reynolds Middle
- North Buncombe
- Asheville High/SILSA

Community Nights (featuring Homework Diners) offer students and their families a nutritious meal, academic support, and access to a wide variety of community resources. This unique family engagement experience builds connections between parents, teachers, students, and community resources. Community Nights happen weekly at several local schools and are open to all families with a K-12 student in the surrounding school district (PreK-8th grade students must attend with an adult family member). The schedule of Homework Dinner locations and times available on their website <https://www.unitedwayabc.org/homework-diners>.

Delta House Life Development at Asheville Middle

LEAAP for Success (Learning through expanded Academics and Arts Program) Community Learning Center is an after-school program of Delta House Life Development of Asheville, Inc. The program provides a safe learning environment and high-quality hands-on learning opportunities for students in grades 6-12 who are at high risk of not achieving in and out of school. Students served live in poverty, and they attend free. The program provides academic support such as homework help, tutoring, and developing skills. Students participate in cultural and social enrichment activities such as arts and crafts, jazz band, health/nutrition, field trips, mentoring, Social Graces, visual arts; positive prevention/intervention and awareness activities such as alcohol, bullying, drugs, gambling, and uses social-emotional growth. Students attend the program Monday thru Thursday from 3:30pm – 6:15pm. Shirley Whitesides is the program director at 254-6804 (office) and 230-9192 (cell); email deltahse218@deltahouse21stcentury.com, website: www.deltahouseleeap21stcentury.com.

Children First/Communities in Schools Learning Center Program at Pisgah View and Woodridge

Children First/Communities in Schools Learning Centers are safe haven afterschool programs that provide homework help, enrichment activities (like soccer, dance and yoga) and a healthy snack to children in grades K-5 living in vulnerable communities. The program free of charge to families living in public housing/low-income communities of Pisgah View and Woodridge Apartments. A summer camp program is also being offered. For more information or to learn how to access these services contact the Director Barbara Norton at barbaran@childrenfirstbc.org.

Youth Transformed for Life (YTL)

YTL's G.R.A.C.E. for Teens Afterschool, Summer Camp, G.R.A.C.E for R.O.S.E.S/M.O.S.S, YTL G.R.A.C.E for Girls Elementary, YTL G.R.A.C.E for Boys, and YTL G.R.A.C.E for Teens Advocacy and Outreach programs were created to assist disadvantaged youth in reaching and exceeding their personal, educational, and professional goals by equipping them with effective communication skills; supporting and advocating for them in the school system; investing time and resources, and creating experiences that will enhance their self-worth and improve their vision for the future. For more information visit the Youth Transformed for Life website <https://www.ytltrainingprograms.org/> or contact them directly via phone at (828) 348-8357 or via email yttraining@gmail.com.

Marvelous Math Club

Marvelous Math Club is an afterschool club that integrates math and psychology, centering the experiences of the students, families, and guardians at Pisgah View Community Center and celebrates its elementary-age students (Math Leaders). MMC is a partnership between Asheville Housing Authority, UNC Asheville, and Asheville City Schools. Marvelous Math Club was created at the request of the community to make a space where Math Leaders feel safe physically and emotionally while practicing and celebrating Math Leadership. For more information or to find out how to access this resource go to the Marvelous Math Club face book page <https://www.facebook.com/marvelousmathclub/about> or email mmc@unca.edu.



VOCATIONAL SKILLS

ASPIRE- Kids at Work, The Connection *(music)*

Kids at Work provides interpersonal skills in an after-school program led by a chef and a therapist, designed to help kids (ages 12-17) learn the technical skills of cooking while building better methods of communication. For more information or to learn how to access these resources contact Kim Castano 828-226-5533.

Goodwill Youth Resources and Opportunities

Opportunities for job readiness training, paid work experience, communication skills, individual career plans, assistance in getting diploma and access to other resources. for more information or to find out how to access these resources call 828-298-9023 ext. 11167
LINKS Program (available for current and former foster care youth):
<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/state-guardianship/independent-living-services-for-foster-children#:~:text=To%20improve%20outcomes%2C%20the%20Independent%20Living%20Services%20for,not%20participating%20in%20Foster%20Care%2018%20to%2021>

Mountain Area Workforce Development Board, NEXTGEN

The WIOA Youth Program, NEXTGEN, provides training and development services to eligible individuals ages 16-24. The major focus of the program is to connect in-school and out-of-school youth to career readiness, career guidance, remediation, community resources and employment and training opportunities. The NEXTGEN Program provides skills necessary to gain and retain employment, directs individuals to careers that are in demand and promotes employment advancement to become self-sufficient. Participants receive one-on-one assistance from a Career Advisor that creates a service strategy to obtain career goals. For more information visit the NEXTGEN website
<https://www.mountainareaworks.org/youth-services/> or contact Brandon Priester at brandonp@landofsky.org

Job Corps

Based in Brevard but will accept Buncombe referrals, then provide residential services and training; do not serve youth on probation. Schenck Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center supports the Job Corps program's mission to teach eligible young people the skills they need to become employable and independent and place them in meaningful jobs or further education. To refer a student to this program visit the Job Corps website <https://schenck.jobcorps.gov/> and for more information call 1-877-763-0580.

Operation Gateway

The mission of Operation Gateway is decreasing recidivism by addressing the social determinants of the health of returning citizens. Operation gateway has community health workers, does advocacy in the Buncombe County Community, works on prison in reach, welcoming home release prisoners, and offers intensive support. For more information about the services offered by operation gateway go to their website <https://www.operationgateway.org/> or call (828) 318-5234.

GO Places

GO Places Program helps justice-involved young adults prepare for employment through placement into paid work experiences, job training, and mentorship. In partnership in Buncombe County with My Daddy Taught Me That and the SPARC Foundation, YWCA of Asheville serves woman-identifying and non-binary participants in the program. For More Information Contact Women's Empowerment YWCA at womens.empowerment@ywcaofasheville.org or call 828-254-7206 ext. 104. For more information about the GO Places program contact Erika Bowman GO Places Coordinator erika@landofsky.org or call (828) 470-0879.

Watauga Opportunities

Watauga Opportunities provides Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) for students, ages 14-21, with documented disabilities. Pre-ETS includes instruction in five categories: Job Exploration, Self-Advocacy, Workplace Readiness, Post-Secondary Exploration, and Work-Based Learning. The Pre-ETS program operates within most of the high schools in Buncombe and Madison Counties, as well as providing community-based experiences and summer services. For more information, please call 828-264-5008 or email preets@woiworks.org.

United Community Development

One of the powerful strategies employed by UCD is to use in-demand home repair, weatherization services, and social enterprise to provide job training, real living wage jobs, and cooperative community control of the social enterprise to the organizations and the residents we serve as a vital anti-poverty strategy. All profits from our "fee for services contracts" are used to support our charitable work in low-income weatherization and energy efficiency, home repair job training, de-cluttering services, and resident capacity-building in microenterprise. For more information visit the United Community Development website <https://ucdofnc.org/>, call 828-275-6217, or email info@ucdofnc.org.



RESTORATIVE & MEDIATION SERVICES

United Way Restorative Practices Trainings w/Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools

United Way is partnering with Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools to offer free Restorative Practices trainings to school and community partners. For info on schools integrating RP visit <https://www.unitedwayabc.org/united-youth-network>; to sign up for RP training contact jo.jamison@unitedwayabc.org.

Umoja + UNETE Restorative Practices Program

Umoja + UNETE Restorative Practices Program: Umoja Health Wellness & Justice Collective and UNETE deliver restorative services for youth and families, using trauma-informed and resiliency-based curriculums to deliver flexible services within the following modes: mediation, conferencing between affected parties, and circles to reduce recidivism, prevent future complaints, heal trauma, & share resources.

Earn and Learn Restitution

Earn and Learn Restitution works with youth assigned community service hours and/or given a monetary compensation requirement for victims provided. For more information go to the Earn and Learn information site <https://buncombealternatives.org/earn-learn-restorative-community-service/> or contact them directly via phone (828)707-3800 or by email at juan@buncombealternatives.org.

Teen Court

Teen Court Clients are given the opportunity to take responsibility for offenses by participating in court proceedings held by trained youth and adult volunteers. For more information or to find out how to access these resources contact (828)707-2113 or email jamielee@buncombealternatives.org.

Mediation Center

The mission of the Mediation Center is to create opportunity from conflict. They offer Mediation, Family Visitation Support, and Training and Workshops. Family Mediation is offered for free for conflict for families and the youth in the family. For more information or to learn how to access this resource visit the Mediation Center website <https://mediatewnc.org/> or contact the Executive Director Laura Jeffords at 828-251-6089.

COMMUNITY DAY PROGRAMMING/STRUCTURED DAY

Schools Day Treatment with A Caring Alternative, Buncombe County Schools (Woodfin Elementary, Owen Middle, Buncombe Community High Pass Program)

Day Treatment is an intensive behavioral health service that allows children and adolescents to access clinical treatment while enrolled in the local county school system. Day Treatment services focus on helping the child or adolescent meet goals and return to a traditional academic setting. Day Treatment Services partners with Buncombe, Mitchell, and Yancey County School Systems. For more information visit the Caring Alternatives website

<https://www.caringalternative.com/services/buncombe-county> or call (828) 475-0822.

Eliada Reuter Transitional Cottage

The Reuter Transitional Cottage is a level 3 cottage designed to care for students in need of this level of care that have been in higher levels of care for extended periods of time. This program serves youth ages 11-17. The Typical stay is an average of 6 months. This program partners with area agencies to return the student to the family home with varying levels of support at home and school or step them down to a therapeutic foster care level with additional supports as well. The students should be referred by their Complex Care Manager from VAYA. For more information go to the Reuter Transitional Cottage page on the Eliada website <https://www.eliada.org/reuter-transitional-cottage/>, or contact Eliada directly by calling (828) 348-3381 or emailing referral@eliada.org.

Partners Unlimited Structured Day Program

Academic and behavioral supports for at-risk middle and high school youth as well as an alternative placement for short- and long-term suspended youth and DJJ referrals. For more information on this resource contact Partners Unlimited at (828) 281-2800 or p.unlimited18@gmail.com, more information is also available through their website <https://punlimited18.wixsite.com/partnersunlimitedinc>.



OUTPATIENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Vaya Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization

Vaya Health is a specialty managed care organization that oversees publicly funded behavioral health and intellectual/developmental disability services across a 32-county region of North Carolina. Vaya manages Medicaid, federal, state and local funding to meet member and community needs while advancing whole-person health. Access to crisis assistance is available 24/7 at 1-800-849-6127. For more information visit <https://www.vayahealth.com/>.

Youth Villages

Youth Villages provides direct services ranging from in-home to residential treatment; shares its nationally recognized and evidence-based program models with partners; and supports state child welfare leaders to bring sustainable change to systems.

Services Offered by Youth Villages:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Hi-Fidelity Wrap Around Services**
- **Intercept: Strengthening families to prevent or limit the need for foster care**
- **Residential Treatment Programs: Research-based therapy for serious emotional and behavioral problems**
- **Lifeset: Helping young adults make a successful transition to adulthood**
- **Multi Systemic Therapy: For teens who are at-risk of placement out of home due to anti-social behavior**

For more information or to refer a child for services visit the Youth Villages website <https://youthvillages.org/services/refer-a-child/> or contact them via phone (828) 250-3700.

Children's Hope Alliance: TASK program

The TASK treatment model is designed to meet the complex needs of youth who have caused sexual harm. Youth who cause sexual harm or engage in sexually problematic behavior come from a variety of backgrounds and are often involved with the justice system. Problem sexual behavior can be symptomatic of underlying mental health issues, including trauma and dysregulation. Highly qualified, licensed staff members who are trained in the TASK model of care provide therapy through an in-home, outpatient model that provides structured family, individual, and group therapy, with an emphasis on safety planning. TASK serves youth ages 8 to 20 years old and emphasizes the development of skills related to self-regulation, communication, healthy sexuality, family conflict, academic engagement, peer relations, and risk management. Treatment lasts an average of 9 to 12 months. All youth receive a Comprehensive Evaluation of Sexual Harm (CESH). For more information on this program or to refer a youth to this program visit the Children's Hope Alliance website

<https://www.childrenshopealliance.org/services/treatment-alternatives-for-sexualized-kids-task/> or call Childrens Hope Alliance at 844-226-8855.

Services:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA) & Comprehensive Evaluation of Sexual Harm (CESH)**
- **Outpatient Counseling Treatment for Sexualized Youth**

Clarvida (formerly Family Preservation Services)

Family Preservation Services is now Clarvida; a comprehensive provider offering Psychiatric Evaluation, Medication Management, outpatient counseling, school-based therapy, and outpatient+ services for children and adolescents. As part of an interdisciplinary approach to the treatment of mental health symptoms, many individuals receive medication to address, stabilize and improve their symptoms. The psychiatry team provides ongoing medication monitoring to those consumers receiving medication. Children and adolescents as well as adults have access to a crisis walk-in center Monday through Friday from 9am-4pm which is insurance blind. To request services visit the "Request Services" tab on the website <https://www.fpsnorthcarolina.com/contact/> or call them at (828) 225-3100.

Services:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Counseling & Medication Management**
- **Intensive In Home**
- **School-Based Therapy**
- **Outpatient+**
- **First Episode Psychosis Treatment Program**

RHA

RHA Asheville is a comprehensive provider that offers a wide range of services. They offer Psychiatric Evaluation, Medication Management, outpatient counseling, school-based therapy, and outpatient+ services for children and adolescents. As part of an interdisciplinary approach to the treatment of mental health symptoms, many individuals receive medication to address, stabilize and improve their symptoms. The psychiatry team provides ongoing medication monitoring to those consumers receiving medication. Children and adolescents as well as adults have access to a crisis Walk In Center Monday through Friday from 9am-4pm which is insurance blind. For more information about the services offered by RHA visit their website

<https://rhahealthservices.org/c3356-comprehensive-care-center/crisis-walk-in-services/#bhuc> or call RHA at 1-800-848-0180.

Services:

- **Counseling Services & Medication Management**
- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Intensive In Home**
- **Mobile Crisis Management**
- **MORES Pilot (Mobile Outreach, Response, Engagement, and Stabilization)**

*Special Programs

- **Asheville Buncombe Futures Movement (ABFM):** ABFM is a youth-led, student collective optimizing youth voices to advocate for a happy, healthy drug-free Buncombe County. The program is designated for Highschool aged students (in or out of school). For more information visit the substance free youth website linked here <https://www.substancefreeyouth.com/our-youth/> or email barry.merlu@rhanet.org.

ACAPS

Appalachian Counseling and Psychological Services offers psychological evaluation and neuropsychological assessments. Psychological evaluations can clarify diagnoses, identify obstacles, determine current functioning, and guide treatment options. This organization offers the assessments for the following Depression and Anxiety, Learning Disabilities, ADHD Testing, Mood Disorders, Personality Disorders, Cognitive Functioning, Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI), Parental Fitness Evaluations, Giftedness Evaluations, Developmental Disabilities, and Speech-Language/Social Communication. To make an appointment visit the Appalachian Counseling and Psychological Services website <https://apppsych.org/our-services/> or call 828-575-9760.

Services:

- **Counseling & Medication Management**
- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**

Grandis Evaluation Center

Grandis Evaluation Center provides psychological evaluations for people of all ages. Grandis Evaluation Center serves youth ages 3 and up. To refer a patient or to get more information on this program visit the Grandis Evaluation Center website <https://gectesting.com/forms/> or contact them via phone at (828) 299-7451.

Services:

- **Psychological Evaluations**

Access Family Services

Access Family Services clinical staff complete a strength-based comprehensive assessment, outpatient therapy and intensive in home. Therapy may be provided at different sites including our offices, school, home and various community settings. For more information on this service visit the Access Family Services website <https://accessfamilyservices.com/services/outpatient-treatment/> or call the Asheville office at 828-670-7723.

Services:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Counseling & Medication Management**
- **Intensive In Home**
- **Therapeutic Foster Care**
- **Outpatient +**

Carolina Pediatrics

Carolina Pediatrics offers services for Infants and Toddlers, School-Age Youth, Teenagers, and Families. The clinicians are trained to work with children and teens in various treatment models (cognitive behavioral therapy, solution-focused, positive psychology, or mindfulness-based), as well as evidence-based treatments (treatments supported by positive research outcomes), including Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) or Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. The Behavioral Health services can be especially beneficial for children & youth experiencing anxiety, traumatic stress, depression, ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), and learning challenges such as dyslexia, math & reading learning disabilities. For more information visit the Carolina Pediatrics Website <https://www.carolinaped.com/pediatric-behavioral-health>. To schedule an appointment call (828) 845-4042.

Services:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Counseling & Medication Management**

Equine assisted psychotherapy:

- Eliada
- Horse Sense

[Eliada Homes Equine Assisted Therapy \(eliadaequinetherapy.org\)](http://eliadaequinetherapy.org)

Horse Sense of the Carolinas: [https://www.horsesenseotc.com/](http://www.horsesenseotc.com/)

Services:

- **Equine Assisted Therapy**

MAHEC

For more info on MAHEC's Center for Psychiatry and Mental Wellness see <https://mahec.net/psychiatry>

Services:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Counseling & Medication Management**
- **School-Based Therapy**
- **Substance use disorder treatment for pregnant and parenting people (Project CARA)**

Blue Ridge Treks

Blue Ridge Treks, LLC is a community of mental health therapists dedicated to enhancing health and wellness in the Blue Ridge Mountains surrounding Asheville, North Carolina. The program utilizes a holistic approach that is strengths-based and relationship-centered. Blue Ridge Treks offers both individual therapy as well as family therapy. For more information on this program vis the Blue Ridge Treks website <http://www.blueridgetreks.com/contact-us/> or contact the Clinical

Director Jen Riley at jen@blueridgetreks.com.

Services:

- **Outpatient Counseling**
- **Outdoor Programming**

Mountain Child Advocacy Center

Mountain Child Advocacy Center is setting the standard for the prevention and treatment of neglect and child abuse. Yearly, they teach more than 8,000 children in Buncombe County through highly interactive and research-based classes designed to educate and empower kids. When abuse occurs, they provide access to free, evidence-based therapies that help children heal. To access this information contact MCAC at advocacy@mtncac.org or Colleen Burnett educator@mtncac.org or call (828) 213-9824

Services:

- **Counseling**
- **Interpersonal Skills**
- **Child Abuse Prevention Education**

AMI Kids Functional Family Therapy

AMI Kids North Carolina Family Services program provides home-based family counseling as designed by FFT LLC, Inc. FFT is a highly regarded evidence-based model proven to reduce recidivism rates and increase overall family functioning. For more information visit the AMI website <https://amikids.org/programs-and-services/programs/amikids-north-carolina-family-services-morganton/story/program> or call the AMI main office at (813) 887-3300.

DJJ REFERRAL REQUIRED

Services:

- **Home Based Family Therapy**

Blue Ridge Health

Blue Ridge Health offers Trauma-informed therapy services, including individual, group, and family interventions. Whole-person care recommendations are developed with the family through clinical assessment. Case management services are offered alongside outpatient therapy. Support is provided in the home and in the community for individuals who are transitioning between services, or who may benefit from coordinated efforts between multiple agencies. For more information visit the Blue Ridge Health website

<https://www.brchs.com/services/behavioral-health-counseling/> or call 888-573-1006.

Blue Ridge Health also offers School-Based Health Centers, to access these services students must register with Blue Ridge Health to receive services. For more information on these programs call the phone number associated with the school you are trying to access services through.

- IC Imagine K-12 Public Charter School: 828-233-2261
- The Franklin School of Innovation: 828-233-2280
- Asheville Middle School: 828-233-2279
- Clyde A. Erwin Middle: 828-233-2280

Services:

- **Outpatient Counseling & Medication Management**
- **Since BRCHS is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), they also provide whole-person medical care**

Appalachian Mountain Community Health Center

Appalachian Mountain Community Health Centers (AMCHC) offer Trauma-informed therapy services, including individual, group, and family interventions. Whole-person care recommendations are developed with the family through clinical assessment. Case management services are offered alongside outpatient therapy. Support is provided in the home and in the community for individuals who are transitioning between services, or who may benefit from coordinated efforts between multiple agencies. For more information contact the AMCHC office at Corporate Office (828) 202-5200 or email info@amchc.org, or visit

<https://www.amchc.org>.

AMCHC now has School-Based Health Centers open at Asheville High School and PEAK Academy, currently enrolling new patients.

- **ASHEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL:** The Campus Clinic provides comprehensive primary care, behavioral health counseling, and dental to AHS students and staff.
- **ASHEVILLE PEAK ACADEMY:** AMCHC is expanding services to provide Holistic School-Based Health Care services at PEAK Academy

Services:

- **Outpatient Counseling & Medication Management**
- **Since BRCHS is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), they also provide whole-person medical care**

SPARC Foundation

SPARC Foundation practitioners are keeping families together and reuniting disrupted families through intensive home-based family therapy called Family Centered Treatment (FCT). With FCT and Family Centered Treatment Recovery which addresses parental substance misuse, we not only have the opportunity to directly improve the outcomes for current families, but also for generations to come as children see a positive shift in their family system and carry that into their future families. To refer individuals to this program, visit the SPARC foundation website referral page <https://thesparcfoundation.org/family-center-treatment-referral/>. For more information call the SPARC Foundation at 828.552.3771 or email frontoffice@thesparcfoundation.org.

Services:

- **Family Centered Treatment (FCT)**

SPARC Services & Programs

Family Centered Treatment® (FCT) is an evidence-based practice (EBP) model of home-based treatment that lowers rates of out of home placements. FCT is a systemic family systems change model. The third phase of treatment, valuing changes (through use of paradoxical and experiential exercises), seeks to confirm and capitalize on internal changes within the family so that the family is not dependent on the therapist once services terminate. Services are intensive with a minimum of 10 hours per month provided to the family. FCT incorporates coordination with other systems, such as MCO, DSS and DJJ as well as 24/7/365 Crisis Intervention. To learn more about Family Centered Treatment: <http://familycenteredtreatment.com> or email Teri Herrmann at therrmann@thesparcnetwork.net

Services:

- **Family Centered Treatment (FCT)**

Your Next Chapter Counseling

Your Next Chapter Counseling serves children and adolescents. Therapists utilize evidence-based modalities including Child Centered Play Therapy, Art Therapy, Parent/Child Coaching, and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Their hope is to make therapy a positive and safe place for our youngest clients. For more information or to access these services contact Your Next Chapter Counseling via phone at 828-708-7088 or via email info@yournextchaptercounseling.com. More information is also available through their website <https://www.yournextchaptercounseling.com/>.

Services:

- **Counseling**
- **School-Based Therapy**

INPATIENT ACUTE CRISIS STABILIZATION & ASSESSMENT

Facility Based Crisis Center

Caiyalynn Burrell Child Crisis Center

The Caiyalynn Burrell Child Crisis Center (CBCCC) Facility-Based Crisis Service for children and adolescents, ages 6-17, is a service that provides an alternative to hospitalization for an eligible child or adolescent who presents with escalated behavior due to a mental health, intellectual or development disability or substance use disorder and requires treatment in a 24-hour residential facility. CBCCC is an indirect, intensive short term, medically supervised service provided in a physically secure setting, that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For more information or to learn how to access these services call 877.277.8873 or visit the Daymark website <https://www.daymarkrecovery.org/locations/fbc-buncombe>.

Psychiatric Acute Care Inpatient Hospital

Mission/HCA Sweeten Creek Mental Health and Wellness Center (Formerly Copestone)

Mission/HCA provides a full spectrum of acute inpatient psychiatric care in the Sweeten Creek MH and Wellness Center. Sweeten Creek MH and Wellness Center provides age-specific inpatient psychiatric units for children, adolescents, adults and geriatrics. For more information visit the Mission Health website <https://missionhealth.org/services-treatments/mental-behavioral-health/therapy-programs/> or call 828-213-1111.



RESIDENTIAL (MEDICAID LEVELED PLACEMENTS)

Local services most relevant to youth at risk of court involvement are included here.

For a comprehensive list, see Vaya Health's Child and Youth Services Resource Guide here:

<https://www.vayahealth.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Child-Youth-Services-Resource-Guide.pdf>

Vaya Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization

For information on Child Placing Agencies who provide Therapeutic Foster Care contact Vaya Health. Vaya Health is a specialty managed care organization that oversees publicly funded behavioral health and intellectual/developmental disability services across a 32-county region of North Carolina. Vaya manages Medicaid, federal, state and local funding to meet member and community needs while advancing whole-person health. For more information visit <https://www.vayahealth.com/>.

Behavioral Health Crisis Line: 1-800-849-6127, available 24/7, 365 days a year

Member and Recipient Services: 1-800-962-9003, Open Monday-Saturday 7am-6pm

Services:

- **Therapeutic Foster Care**

Eliada

For more information visit the Eliada website <https://www.eliada.org>. To refer, contact referral@eliada.org.

Services:

- **Therapeutic Foster Care**
- **Medicaid Level III Transitional Cottage:** Provides care for students transitioning from extended periods of higher level care back to the community, with the goal of preventing re-entering a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF). This 30- to 45-day program provides wraparound support with partners to return the student to the family home or step down to Therapeutic Foster Care with additional supports.
- **Medicaid Level III Group Home:** This 8 bed group home and assessment center serves youth ages 11-17, with a 30- to 45-day length of stay. Youth receive a comprehensive multidisciplinary evaluation to determine appropriate levels of care in the least restrictive setting. Participants receive campus-based education through Day Treatment, specialized behavioral interventions, psychiatric evaluation, medication management, crisis stabilization, and clinical services. Youth with co-occurring substance use disorders or developmental disabilities are considered on a case-by-case basis.
- **Community Respite Home:** Green Community Respite has 4 beds dedicated to Vaya members, serving youth ages 6-17 for up to 14 days. The facility provides temporary/periodic placement for youth with a mental health diagnosis and/or mild I/DD. Referrals must be completed by Vaya.
- **ESTA Workforce Ready Housing:** to assist young adults (ages 18-25) in obtaining the life skills necessary to secure and maintain stable housing. Participants must be working or Ready-to-Work, meet age requirements and complete an application. Participants are provided weekly case management to help overcome their barriers to housing.

Youth Villages

Youth Villages provides direct services ranging from in-home to residential treatment; shares its nationally recognized and evidence-based program models with partners; and supports state child welfare leaders to bring sustainable change to systems.

Services Offered by Youth Villages:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Hi-Fidelity Wrap Around Services**
- **Intercept: Strengthening families to prevent or limit the need for foster care**
- **Residential Treatment Programs: Research-based therapy for serious emotional and behavioral problems**
- **Lifeset: Helping young adults make a successful transition to adulthood**
- **Multi Systemic Therapy: For teens who are at-risk of placement out of home due to anti-social behavior**

For more information or to refer a child for services visit the Youth Villages website <https://youthvillages.org/services/refer-a-child/> or contact them via phone (828) 250-3700.

Access Family Services

Access Family Services clinical staff complete a strength-based comprehensive assessment, outpatient therapy and intensive in home. Therapy may be provided at different sites including our offices, school, home and various community settings. For more information on this service visit the Access Family Services website <https://accessfamilyservices.com/services/outpatient-treatment/> or call the Asheville office at 828-670-7723.

Services:

- **Comprehensive Clinical Assessments (CCA)**
- **Counseling & Medication Management**
- **Intensive In Home**
- **Therapeutic Foster Care**
- **Outpatient +**

Care Haven Respite Facility w/Caring Alternatives

Care Haven is a five-bed community respite facility serving youth with a mental health diagnosis. The facility provides temporary placement for youth for up to 24 days in a calendar year without prior authorization (same-day intake). It also provides 24-hour awake staff who are paraprofessionals (with Therapeutic Foster Care parent training) for supervision. Located in McDowell County. Licensed for ages 5 to 17. Contact: A Caring Alternative | House Main Number: 828-475-1705 | Melisa Tate: 828-608-3408, ext. 751 carehaven@caringalternative.com | caringalternative.com

Services:

- **Respite Care Homes (30 days or less)**

Interlude with Brandi Nichole Family Enrichment Center

Interlude is a five-bed community respite facility serving youth with a mental health diagnosis. The facility provides temporary placement for youth for up to 24 days in a calendar year without prior authorization (same-day intake). It also provides 24-hour awake staff who are paraprofessionals (with Therapeutic Foster Care parent training) for supervision. Located in Buncombe County. Licensed for ages 5 to 17. Contact: Contact Jewel Richardson at jewel@brandinichole.org or Karen Cowen at karen@brandinichole.org. For more information visit the Brandi Nicole Website <https://www.brandinichole.org/respice-care/> or call (828) 687-3776.

Services:

- **Respite Care Homes (30 days or less)**

Hawthorn Heights

Hawthorn Heights is a nine-bed licensed community respite facility with four dedicated beds for members with a primary mental health diagnosis. The remaining beds are for children involved with the DJJ. The facility provides temporary/periodic placement for youth. The provider has 24/7 admission (requests at least two hours' notice of transport after referral has been accepted for placement). The home provides 24-hour awake staff with youth being separated by age and gender to ensure safety. Located in Swain County. Licensed for ages 12 to 17. Kara Long (Director), 828-488-6512 | Fax: 828-488-7975 | referrals@hawthornheights.org.

Services:

- **Respite Care Homes (30 days or less)**

Timber Ridge

Timber Ridge Treatment Center serves males from 12 to 17 years of age. Timber Ridge accepts Medicaid. Located in Salisbury, NC, near the Uwharrie Forest, Timber Ridge takes an ecologically oriented, positive peer group approach to treatment. Programs include:

- An on campus academic program, the Uwharrie Learning Center, features traditional classroom studies and a hands-on experiential approach which is beneficial to children with Attention Deficit and Conduct Disorder symptoms. Residents may receive individual tutoring as needed.
- Substance use counseling services include 12-step programming for Dual Diagnostic youths with addiction problems.
- Family Counseling sessions are scheduled on a regular basis, including monthly group parent training opportunities and weekly contact with child and family. Family and individual sessions are provided by Master's level counselors. In addition, residents progress through the Moral Reconation Therapy program with regular group sessions.
- Supervises treatment for Problem Sexual Behaviors (PSB); treatment components include Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, risk assessments, safety plans, individual, family and group therapy.

More information is available through their website <https://www.trtc.net/>. Contact laurenplyler@trtc.net or (704)279-1199.

Services:

- **Medicaid Level III Wilderness Program**

Eckerd Short Term Residential – DJJ Level II

Eckerd Connects' short-term juvenile justice gender-specific residential academy offers rehabilitative services for youth ages 13 - 17. Our services help youth change their behavior by building upon their strengths. This intensive program lasts between four to six months. For more info [Short-Term Residential Programs](#) | [NC DPS](#):

- Eckerd Connects | Boys Residential Academy at Boomer (336) 921-3300
- Eckerd Connects | Boys Residential Academy at Candor (910) 974-4183
- Eckerd Connects | Boys Residential Academy at Yanceyville
- Eckerd Connects | Female Residential Academy at Kerr Lake (252) 366-9380.

Macon County Multipurpose Group Home

The Multipurpose Juvenile Home Program is designed to provide non-secure, long-term, residential care as an alternative to secure detention and youth development centers. Macon County Group Home is a Medicaid Certified 6 Bed Intermediate Care Facility located in Franklin, NC, with service to the surrounding community. Macon County Group Home can be contacted at (828) 524-5888. For more info see [Multi-Purpose Juvenile Homes](#) | [NC DPS](#): <https://www.ncdps.gov/juvenile-justice/community-programs/multi-purpose-juvenile-homes>

DJJ REFERRAL REQUIRED

Services:

- **Group Home**

Western Area Multipurpose and Assessment (Buncombe County)

The Crisis and Assessment Center is designated for ages 10-17 years old. The center serves boys and girls with histories of behavioral and mental health issues, neglect, trauma, or substance abuse. The stay length of this center is 14 to 45 days for comprehensive testing and observation under the supervision of a licensed psychologist and licensed clinical case managers. They leave with a plan of care that maps out their strengths, areas of focus, goals, and services in their community that can help (therapy, counseling for substance abuse or mental health, educational/vocational training, or other). The Western area location has 5 Crisis Beds and 4 Secure Custody Beds.

For more information visit the Methodist Home for Children website <https://www.mhfc.org/services/juvenile-justice/residential> or call 828-338-8340 to contact the Western area location.

DJJ REFERRAL REQUIRED

Methodist Home for Children - Transitional Living Programs (Sites across NC)

Methodist Home for Children operates transitional living homes in partnership with the NC Department of Public Safety. Homes provide 6- to 12-month residential programs that support court-involved young people ages 16 - 21 to build the vocational and interpersonal skills they need to live independently. For more info: [Transitional Services | NC DPS: <https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/juvenile-justice/community-programs/transitional-services>](https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/juvenile-justice/community-programs/transitional-services).

DJJ REFERRAL REQUIRED

Services:

- **Transitional Living Homes**

