BUNCOMBE COUNTY COVID RECOVERY FUNDING

Project Spotlight



To promote a strong and equitable recovery from COVID-19 and its negative economic impacts, Buncombe County invested federal funds into projects like this one.

Project	Buncombe County Creative Sector Recovery Grant
Lead Organization	ARTS
Award Amount	\$50,000
Project Dates	February 2022 – March 2023
Impact Area	Aid to Other Impacted Industries

How the Funds Were Used

ArtsAVL, formerly Asheville Area Arts Council, worked to aid nonprofit arts organizations by supporting existing jobs, creating new jobs, or to restore jobs that were furloughed or eliminated due to the pandemic. ArtsAVL provided support through project grants up to \$5,000 for nonprofit arts organizations in Buncombe County for eligible operating expenses. ArtsAVL managed all aspects of the regranting process, including applications, outreach, award selection and distribution. ArtsAVL leveraged additional funding from North Carolina Arts Council Grassroots Arts Program for successful delivery of workforce aid in the COVID-impacted arts sector in Buncombe County.

Results

- 37 organizations received funding
- 52% of survey respondents used funding for salary support
- 44% used the funding for mortgage, rent, and/or utilities
- 18% increase in employees, 46 jobs created
- 29% are BIPOC led organizations
- 95% committed to paying living wages





"All grant applicants reported significant negative impacts to their businesses due to COVID-19. These funds provided stability to the arts, entertainment, and recreation sector."

-Katie Cornell, Executive Director, ArtsAVL

For a complete listing of Buncombe County's American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund investments, visit www.buncombecounty.org/recoveryfunding