MINUTES

Attendees: Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Al Whitesides, Kit Cramer, Martin Moore, Leslie Anderson, Mark Taft, Carol Steen, Pam Holcombe, Diana Anthony, Heather Zanzig

Absent: Linda McDaniel, Mistie Reising-Cogbill, Philip Belcher, Susan Mims

Staff in attendance: Rachael Nygaard, Angelyn Johnson, Michael Frue, Angelica Tyler

Welcome

Minutes

- Approval of minutes from November 7, 2023
  - Motion to approve by Mark Taft. Seconded by Kit Cramer. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Addition to Agenda

- Southwestern Child Development/Valley Child Care
  - Martin Moore made a motion to add Southwestern Child Development/Valley Child Care to today's agenda. Jasmine Beach Ferrara seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
  - Valley Child Care is currently scheduled to close as of 12/31. This center serves target populations: teen parents, foster parents, school staff/faculty. It is a four-star center licensed for up to 50 children. Current enrollment is 45, of which 34 are voucher students and 11 are private pay. Southwestern is willing to do a 30-day extension with financial support. They are asking for $40,000. This time will allow time to identify another operator to do a change of ownership. Southwestern will leave the furnishings and other items in the center for the new operator. They currently have 11 staff that could potentially be absorbed by new provider.
  - Kit Cramer made a motion to award $40,000 to Southwestern Child Development as requested. Leslie Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - Martin Moore made a motion to create a sub-group to assist with this transition plan that consists of Martin Moore, Leslie Anderson, Mark Taft and Kit Cramer. Jasmine Beach Ferrara seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Martin Moore made a motion to give the sub-group authority to make decision for emergency funding for transitioning. Jasmine Beach Ferrara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

- Committee membership
  - Committee reviewed demographics of current committee members to identify any targeted outreach needed. Currently have 1 vacancy on the committee.
- Workforce development series takeaways
  - Staff shared summary document which was included in the meeting materials

Meeting materials are posted online at www.BuncombeCounty.org/Grants
New Business

- FY2025 grant guidelines, application and scoring criteria
  - Grant guidelines:
    - Staff highlighted the changes which include indicating workforce development as a top priority. There is an in-person open house event for applicants this year.
  - Application:
    - The committee would like to edit the results question and change “hope” to “intend” and change “any specific measures” to “the specific measures”. For returning applicants, add “specific measures” to that part of the question.
  - Scoring Criteria:
    - The committee would like to consider removing “Do you recommend this project for funding” if it isn’t used.

Announcements

- Grants Open House on January 10 from 4:00-6:00 pm. Let staff know if any members are interested in attending as a representative of this committee.

Public Comment

- There were no public comments.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is January 2, 2024, 1:00-2:30 pm, 200 College St, Ground Floor Conference Room

Meeting materials are posted online at www.BuncombeCounty.org/Grants