

# FY2021 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

<b>Organization Name:</b>	<b>Buncombe County Partnership for Children</b>	
<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Buncombe County Early Childhood Teacher Workforce Development Program</b>	
<b>Reporting Quarter:</b> (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020)
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)
	x	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021)
		Quarter 4 (April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021)

## Narrative summary of grant related activities

<b>Overall project updates:</b>	The cohort that end of April that will be all county funded participants. All the participants completed the training and are enrolled in EDU 119 will start in the Fall. Since the grade schools have been opening back up and there are vaccinations, available more participants have been showing interested in going through our program and working in childcare centers. We also have more demand for substitutes than we can fill at this time and have been working with former participants to join the substitute pool when school for their children resumes in August.
<b>COVID-19 impacts:</b>	It has been more difficult during the pandemic to connect with community partners that have helped us connect with potential participants. However, referrals come from existing partners as well as via word of mouth and we have a waiting list for next program year. The majority of our trainings are online, that has been very difficult because our ECE trainings are more hands on. We have not been able to visit EC centers as we did in the past due to restrictions. Many of our participants have been referred to WDP from childcare centers before they will offer those participants full time employment – we are excited to continue to grow these partnerships with local programs as the pandemic ends.
<b>Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:</b>	We are connecting with other community agencies to reach potential participants that live in public housing, individuals who receive government assistance, individuals that are receiving their GED, as well as expanding our work with Spanish-speaking communities. We are committed to offering all parts of the program in Spanish and are working to expand job-placement opportunities post-COVID for Spanish speaking participants.
<b>Activities related to increasing operational excellence:</b>	WDP gave participants a "Career Building" Training that consisted of resume building, "how to" fill out job applications and search for jobs. we had a guest speakers that talked about what to expect in childcare centers and discussed "barriers" that participants might face when applying and working at childcare centers. We had a "graduation" ceremony for the participants that completed the program. One participant who had recently gained full employment shared her story with the group. She is South American and was a certified early childhood teacher in her country but went through our program and we were able to get all her transcripts translated so that she could receive NC credentials. Connecting with new agencies/communities in the county, interviewing former participants about the impact of the program in their personal and professional lives to inform future project planning. Participant evaluations from the first online training cohort were used to improve the next training cohort that occurred online. Program staff maintain open communication with current and past participants, allowing them to continuously be responsive to feedback to improve the program.

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## Progress toward annual goals

		Actual Results (Enter Data) Please only include new data for the specific quarter				Progress toward Annual Goal
Measure	Annual Goal	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of participants enrolled	20	1	2	0	13	16
# of participants complete the training required for employment (level 1) as evidenced by a completed NC DCDEE employment file and training certificates	15	1	2	0	9	12
# of substitute placement sites	15	0	3	0	3	6
# of participants offered substitute positions at placement sites	15	0	3	0	3	6
# of participants that complete EDU 119 with a grade of C or better	10	0	0	0	0	0
# of participants that receive offers of full-time employment as early childhood teachers	15	0	1	0	4	5
# of participants that finish the Workforce Development Program and enroll in an additional early childhood education Community College course	2	0	0	0	0	0
# of early childhood education programs that use orientation and DCDEE file creation services for newly hired teachers	5	0	1	0	0	1

**Comments:**

**\*\*Due to COVID-19 the process of enrollment for WDP has been slowed, however we continue to receive lots of calls and emails from interested individuals. Enrollment numbers were lower than anticipated for Q4, mostly due to the high numbers of parents in program cohorts and the continued lack of in-person school for many young children.**

**\*\*The Q4 participant cohort is enrolled in the 2021-22 Fall section of EDU 119, so their completion rate is not reflected here. Additionally, several members of fall 2020 cohorts have opted to delay enrollment in EDU-119 due to pandemic stressors.**

**\*\*Note about rate of hire for substitutes and full-time: We have found that many of this year's participants are not able to work at this time due to their own child care needs, this is especially true of parents of school-age children. While the numbers reflected here are lower than expected, many of the participants plan to work as substitutes and/or take full-time employment in classrooms as schools re-open fully and consistently in the fall. We will be tracking these numbers carefully and look forward to reporting back to the committee.**

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## Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting Budget	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount Remaining
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 82,715	\$ 16,921	17,461.29	16,520.12	22,723.24	\$ 9,089
Travel/Training	\$ 6,500	\$ 398	691.29	-	2,010.14	\$ 3,401
Technology	\$ 2,000	\$ 264	-	-	10,822.38	\$ (9,086)
Curriculum/Assessments						\$ -
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 7,909	\$ 150	161.64	1,084.60	6,922.36	\$ (410)
Building Maintenance/Repair	\$ 1,100	\$ 127	174.69	135.78	259.43	\$ 403
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities	\$ 4,220	\$ 1,073	1,074.77	992.60	1,535.60	\$ (456)
Furniture						\$ -
Playground/Outdoor space						\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$ 525		-	-		\$ 525
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,						\$ -
Other (contracted services, participant stipends,	\$ 33,050	\$ 1,433	544.10	1,525.00	27,104.22	\$ 2,443
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 138,019</b>	<b>\$ 20,366</b>	<b>20,107.78</b>	<b>20,258.10</b>	<b>71,377.37</b>	<b>\$ 5,910</b>

### Comments:

Due to lower than anticipated enrollment in the mid-Q4 participant cohort, lack of travel expenses, and fewer than anticipated participants needing costly out-of-state tuition, we did not fully expend the grant funds.