

FY2022 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	Buncombe Partnership for Children	
Project Name:	Early Childhood Systems Coordination & Single Portal of Entry Implementation	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide brief responses that fit within the box provided

Overall project updates:	The Early Childhood Systems Coordinator has been busy coordinating and expanding ABPPC (and its leadership team and work groups) as we engage the larger ECE community and compile and conduct research to develop recommendations for the county's expansion of NC Pre-K. In addition, we have conducted interviews and are close to hiring the "Buncombe Preschool Navigator" to build out and fully implement the Single Portal of Entry (SPOE). The SPOE working group continues to meet monthly, and we most recently identified lessons learned from the pilot components we implemented this past spring, in preparation for full implementation in spring 2022. The online application portal contract starts October 15, so we will build out that online application and associated processes and conduct community outreach between now and January, 2022.
Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:	The main activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion in the last 3 months are the family engagement activities we have conducted and continued to conduct, prioritizing families of color and families who are non-native English speakers. Because of COVID, these are smaller, often virtual, "community conversations" about pre-k expansion and experiences people have had with local preschool, with 2 goals: 1) identifying issues to include or address in our December report to the county and 2) identifying parents who may be interested in more in-depth, ongoing work to shape early education in Buncombe County. In addition, we have committed to hiring a bilingual (Spanish/English) person for the SPOE position, to ensure outreach and enrollment are as inclusive as possible.
Activities related to increasing operational excellence:	All staff in our agency are working through modules of the Whiteness at Work series, with reflection and discussion in each staff meeting.

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Progress toward annual goals

Measure	Annual Goal	Actual Results (Enter Data) Please only include new data for the specific quarter				Progress toward Annual Goal
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Number of partner agencies actively promoting the single portal with their clients	25	N/A				0
Number of local agencies/divisions/partners actively participating in ABPPC or its working groups	25	21				21
Number of diverse parent/caregivers engaged in a series on ECE "learning and leading," focused on their experiences with ECE, current issues, and how to be involved in local initiatives and advocacy	6	N/A				0

Comments:

Single portal/preschool application promotion does not begin until early spring, 2022. Because of the added workload of the county contract to provide planning/recommendations related to expanding NC Pre-K, we have not yet started the ongoing, deeper "learning and leading" series for families. However, we are engaging with families in a variety of ways to learn from their experiences and questions around Pre-K and to collect feedback about elements of the Pre-K expansion plan. At these family/community conversation events, we always invite families to note if they are interested in learning more and being more involved in shaping the 0-5 system. We are maintaining relationships with those interested people until the more intense series can begin. Forty-five individuals, representing 21 unique agencies/organizations have engaged in ABPPC and/or workgroup meetings since July, plus 5 more participants who come as community volunteers. In addition, we have worked with a number of individuals and community organizations outside those ABPPC meetings to build connections and gather input that directly contributes to ABPPC's work.

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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	\$ 126,113	\$ 18,748				\$ 107,365
Travel/Training	\$ 500					\$ 500
Technology	\$ 6,000					\$ 6,000
Curriculum/Assessments						\$ -
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 500					\$ 500
Building Maintenance/Repair	\$ 953	\$ 108				\$ 845
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities	\$ 4,694	\$ 1,185				\$ 3,509
Furniture	\$ 400					\$ 400
Playground/Outdoor space						\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$ 2,000					\$ 2,000
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,						\$ -
Incentives and supports for family engagement--gift	\$ 2,000					\$ 2,000
Total	\$ 143,160	\$ 20,041	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 123,119

Comments: