

FY2022 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	OnTrack Financial Education & Counseling	
Project Name:	SECURE Matched Savings for Buncombe County Childcare Workers	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	x	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021)
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021)
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022)
		Quarter 4 (April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Overall project updates:	<p>We are pleased to report SECURE participants from 7 different Buncombe County childcare centers! Enrollment of 40 participants is 53% of our grant goal of 75. Demographics of participants: Black: 24%; Other: 5%; White: 71%. Over 70% of participants have household incomes that are less than 80% AMI.</p> <p>A new round of recruiting and publicity began at the end of 1Q and continues in early Q2 which we expect to generate an influx of participants.</p>
Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:	<p>On September 13th, The Adaway Group met with OnTrack's leadership team to present the results of the racial equity audit which was conducted from June 9th - September 1st. The audit included interviews with people of color who are clients, board, former staff and community partners. In addition, it reviewed OnTrack's policies, procedures, sample job postings, evaluation/compensation practices, online client screening/budget information, employee handbook, and program information. The Adaway Group encouraged our leadership team to take a month to review and digest the findings, suggestions, and recommendations, prior to our first of three coaching meetings in October. During the coaching meetings, we will develop our action plan to target and prioritize focus areas.</p>

Activities related to increasing operational excellence:

Programming: After enrolling and opening savings accounts at Self-Help Credit Union, SECURE participants participate in one orientation session and two education classes. We created these online classes to continue to provide quality education during remote work; they are serving our clients well and provide flexibility and convenience to people with busy work and family lives. The SECURE orientation is online, on-demand and gives participants a step-by-step overview of the program. Money Visioning & Goal Setting is a live class on Zoom facilitated by an OnTrack Educator who inspires participants' money dreams, gives tips for creating SMART goals, and sets up the next step which is the self-paced, online Money Foundations series, organized in modules for ease of use. To date, 26 people have completed Money Visioning & Goal Setting; 14 have completed all modules of Money Foundations is the online, on-demand, module-based education series 14 have completed Money Foundations.

Staffing: On September 7th we added two new incredible staff members who will serve our SECURE clients well. Dianna Lester, comes with phenomenal, direct experience doing financial and housing education with clients at Habitat for Humanity in Hendersonville. She's already started teaching Money Visioning (with the in-and-out of class support of an experienced educator) with SECURE ECE participants! Dianna's future training will include SECURE counseling. Rebecca Strimer, VITA Coordinator and Financial/Housing Counseling comes with excellent experience in community engagement and project management; her primary focus now is the VITA program and in the months ahead she will train as a Counselor and will support SECURE participants with individual counseling appointments.

Money Visioning & Goal Setting Survey responses:

- *"The illustrations of the concepts were really enlightening and help me absorb and understand the concept. pace of the class was excellent and Tamara was a terrific teacher. She is so smart about this stuff and able to answer questions effortlessly. Really terrific."*
- *"it was great that the instructor went over factors that are out of our control that affect our money and to be gentle with ourselves."*
- *"Just hearing other people talk about where they are made me realize how normal it is for me to be at this point financially and looking to improve."*
- *"[The most helpful part of the class was] Just being walked through imagining achievement. It's so easy to just feel total collapse and overwhelm. If the practice of imagining our success and dreaming about it can move us to make small steps - that feels life changing."*
- *"This class made me more aware of being responsible and aware of my spending, saving, and being realistic about money goals."*

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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	
# of participants enrolled in the SECURE program	75	40				40
# of participants that complete money management education	75	14				14
# of participants that receive at least two 1.5 hour sessions of individual financial counseling	62	0				0
# of participants that save \$210 and meet program requirements to graduate and receive a \$840 match	53	0				0
# of participants that elect to receive a free tri-merge credit report with scores at their second financial counseling appointment to pursue credit-related goals	27	0				0

Comments:

*NOTE: In FY21, we enrolled 13 ECE participants in SECURE. In 1Q FY22, we enrolled 27 ECE participants which brings total enrollment to 40 total participants. We reported total enrollment of 40 in 1Q above to reflect our progress towards the Total Grant Goal of 75. Please let us know if you would like us to not include FY21 enrollees and revise 1Q to 27.

**NOTE: The complete money management requirement is TWO classes. As of September 30th, 26 participants had completed at least one class, 14 had completed both classes.

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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	\$ 22,071	\$ 5,094				\$ 16,977
Travel/Training	\$ 202	\$ -				\$ 202
Technology	\$ 3,166	\$ 274				\$ 2,892
Curriculum/Assessments	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Licensing/Dues	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Nutrition	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Transportation	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 246	\$ -				\$ 246
Building Maintenance/Repair	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities	\$ 1,448	\$ 360				\$ 1,088
Furniture	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Playground/Outdoor space	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,	\$ -	\$ -				\$ -
Client Savings Matches & Incentives, Credit Reports	\$ 45,685	\$ 75				\$ 45,610
Total	\$ 72,818	\$ 5,803	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67,015

Comments:

Note that the Starting Budget column equals the original \$79K budget less amounts spent during the fiscal year ended 6/30/21.