

FY2024 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	Buncombe Partnership for Children	
Project Name:	Early Childhood Systems Coordination: Addressing Gaps in Equity Education & Children's Mental Health	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023)
	x	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024)
		Quarter 4 (April 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 1500 characters). You may attach supplemental documents if needed.

Quarter 1	<p>The Racial Equity Work Group completed our work with Integral Ed, our contractor, in late August, and received three completed videos, highlighting Buncombe BIPOC families telling stories about their experiences with early education, while highlighting key research and concepts (implicit bias, cultural humility, etc.). The Workgroup is excited to get these videos out in the community, but first we had to finalize the online landing page the videos point to, and to allow teachers to settle into the new school year a bit. We are planning an ECE Teacher Equity Movie Night for later this fall. Work focused on understanding and addressing issues related to young children experiencing social-emotional-behavioral challenges included: 1) RFP for a contractor to facilitate listening and planning sessions created 2) Proposal review committee members identified 3) Gathered information on social-emotional-behavioral curriculum/frameworks being used in child care programs locally 4) Began identifying community mental health service providers who support young children for the creation of the mental health service providers listening session and 5) Drafted a comprehensive diagram of the local early childhood system with accompanying doc describing the programs affiliated with each of the 4 system hubs, who administers the program and funding source. We are getting feedback from the ABPPC on the diagram and to finalize and use it as a tool to further educate our members, educate others and aid in the ABBPC's planning.</p>
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<p>Quarter 2</p>	<p>The Racial Equity Work Group hosted an evening "launch event" for the video series on December 5, 2023 at the Jewish Community Center. We offered continuing education credit, as well as food and childcare. This event was to let our community know these videos exist and to invite them into the conversation about how we can use them in our field to spark conversation, raise awareness and build important skills for ECE teachers. We hope to host at least one more open event like this, and we are also working with directors and CCR and higher education partners to disseminate them more organically. We also presented the videos at BPFC's December Board meeting where members viewed one video followed by small group discussions. The ABPPC full collaborative met in November for a visioning session facilitated by Dr. Amieris Lavender, collaborative tri-chair. While the collaborative's vision and overarching goal -- increasing access to high quality affordable preschool for 3- and 4yr olds in Asheville and Buncombe County, with a priority on children and families who are currently experiencing the greatest barriers to access -- remains the same, over the years the group has reviewed and updated their goals to address current challenges and barriers towards meeting that goal. At the January collaborative meeting, members will review the ideas generated from the visioning session and to get confirmation on existing/new goals as well as determine if there is a need for any workgroup changes to support the goals. Re: the work focused on children experiencing social-emotional and/or behavioral challenges, we received a good response to our invitation to mental health professionals, pediatricians and early interventionists, the first group who will participate in listening sessions. We adjusted our timeline for this work and plan to begin sessions in early March.</p>
<p>Quarter 3</p>	

Quarter 4

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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 attendees at video screening/discussion	50	0	40			40
# of teachers who report increased awareness and understanding of teacher bias and the negative impact on children	40	0	26			26
# of early educators who participate in listening session and interviews	25	0				0
# of mental health professionals who participate in listening sessions & interviews	30	0				0
# of sets of strategy recommendations completed	1	0				0

Comments:

The Racial Equity Work Group hosted an "Early Educator Movie Night" on December 5th, where we showed all 3 videos. We had 40 total attendees, but not all were early educators who needed continuing education credits, so only 29 of the 40 attendees completed the post-test. Twenty-six of those 29 reported having a deeper understanding of bias that they would take back to their classroom practices (3 responded "neutral" to that question). Other attendees included administrators and community members "adjacent" to ECE. Since the launch event, we have had 5 requests from center administrators to get access to the videos to use with their staff, and we will follow up with them next month about how exactly they have used the videos. We sent invitations to more than 25 mental health professionals to describe our work and invite them to a future listening session.

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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	\$ 53,261	\$6,564	\$5,530			\$ 41,167
Travel/Training	\$ 2,000					\$ 2,000
Technology						\$ -
Curriculum/Assessments						\$ -
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 2,000	\$22	\$28			\$ 1,950
Building Maintenance/Repair	\$ 29	\$7	\$10			\$ 12
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities	\$ 301	\$101	\$164			\$ 36
Furniture						\$ -
Playground/Outdoor space						\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$ 920		\$288			\$ 632
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,						\$ -
Other (stipends, translation, honorariums)	\$ 9,000		\$375			\$ 8,625
Total	\$ 67,511	\$ 6,694	\$6,395	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,422

Comments: