

# FY2024 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

<b>Organization Name:</b>	FIRSTwnc		
<b>Project Name:</b>	SUNSHINE Project and Mental Health Supports in ECE Centers		
<b>Reporting Quarter:</b> (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023)	
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)	
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024)	
	X	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.

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<p>We are off to a busy start and continue to work towards our measures and goals. Processes have been created to work with classrooms and directors on providing guidance with enhancing policies and becoming more culturally and ability responsive. Reframing language, co regulation strategies, and small group coaching sessions have been beneficial in supporting our students, families, and teaching staff. A few obstacles that we have encountered is teacher turnover and finding time to be able to communicate with the staff and families. The programs are working with us on this, but it is often difficult to find coverage for everyone to collaboratively meet and share.</p>
<b>Quarter 2</b>	<p>The second quarter has demonstrated continued support and growth for students, families, and teachers. We have received positive feedback from families and programs about our services and activities. The programs find that having therapists come into the school environment has been beneficial, not only for the students, but also the educators. The families greatly appreciate that their children can receive in school therapy, rather than having to take time off of work to bring them to appointments. This is a huge win especially when we talk about accessibility and reducing barriers. In addition, the families have felt more comfortable reaching out for guidance within their home environments. The resources and materials that we have been able to provide with this funding have been greatly appreciated and useful for all. The educators have been recognizing the importance of reflecting on their whole classroom environment and creating welcoming classrooms where everyone is visually represented and valued.</p>

<b>Quarter 3</b>	<p>Recent Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hired a bilingual consultant who was previously a SUNSHINE Project intern 3 years ago and contracted with local service providers.</li> <li>- Exceeded goals for the quarter, with plans to increase outcomes next year.</li> <li>- Focused on mental health supports and inclusivity in early childhood development, including the creation of an extensive inclusivity book list.</li> <li>- Created and shared an inclusive book list with educators and service providers.</li> <li>- Caregiver community of practice initiated for the 4th quarter.</li> <li>- Early childhood students using their voices more with guidance to get their needs met.</li> </ul> <p>Community Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased outreach with fiscal support from the County.</li> <li>- Hosted interns from UNCA and WCU, allowing them to contribute and develop professional skills.</li> </ul> <p>Internship Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Psychology/Education interns from UNCA shared lived experiences, developed skills, and aided in material creation.</li> <li>- Clinical interns from WCU continue to provide mental health support in early childhood centers.</li> <li>- Celebrated the success of a clinical intern who received their license.</li> </ul> <p>Gratitude:</p> <p>Thankful for continued funding support enabling these initiatives.</p>
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<b>Quarter 4</b>	<p>Yearly Overview</p> <p>Clinical Internships and Licensure: One clinical interns has successfully graduated and obtained counseling licensure. Another intern is making steady progress toward her own licensure. These achievements highlight our commitment to developing emerging professionals in counseling and mental health.</p> <p>Process Improvement and Translation: Our consultant has been revising processes to enhance efficiency and effectiveness. These processes have been translated into Spanish, broadening our accessibility and ensuring our services are inclusive and available to a diverse population.</p> <p>Collaboration with New Programs and Continued Partnerships: Three new schools have sought our expertise in creating equitable policies, reflecting our growing reputation and the value of our work in promoting fairness and inclusivity in educational environments.</p> <p>Enhanced Accessibility and Distribution of Materials: We have designed and expanded our materials to ensure they are accessible, easily distributed, and displayed within the community. This effort has significantly increased our reach and the visibility of our services.</p> <p>Service Satisfaction and Community Engagement: We received 100% satisfaction regarding our services. The early childhood community continues to seek our support and training to enhance their knowledge and skills, highlighting the trust and value they place in our expertise.</p> <p>Appreciation and Future Plans: We extend our sincere appreciation to Buncombe County for their continued support, which has been instrumental in achieving our goals and expanding our impact. Looking ahead, we plan to offer a caregiver support cohort with community support and partnerships. By leveraging local resources and building stronger community ties, we are optimistic about providing essential support services and overcoming financial hurdles.</p>
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## Progress toward annual goals

		Actual Results (Enter Data)				
		Please only include new data for the specific quarter				
Measure	Annual Goal	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	toward
# of staff members provided with coaching/ consulting	30	28	11	14	8	61
% improvement in the areas of need as demonstrated by the data from SEAM	80%		90%		82%	86%
# of program directors/administrators assisted in enhancing their policies	5	2	4	3	1	10
Satisfaction rating based on overall responsiveness through anonymous satisfaction	90%		96%		100%	98%
# of classrooms assisted in becoming more culturally and ability responsive	10	3	4	4	3	14
# of children and families supported with resources, trainings and tool kits	30	18	15	13	9	55

### Comments:

We will report % improvement in the areas of need as demonstrated by the data from SEAM in the second and fourth quarters. In addition, satisfaction ratings based on overall responsiveness through anonymous satisfaction surveys will be reported in the second and fourth quarters. This project is unable to provide accurate data for these two measures until we have more time to provide support and document progress. ***For the second quarter, we are happy to report that the students improved in 9 out of the 10 benchmark areas.***

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## Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Budget	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Remaining
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 84,110	\$ 21,196.00	\$ 19,322	\$ 16,055	\$ 27,537	\$ -
Travel/Training	\$ 1,950	\$ 89.00	\$ 1,395	\$ 233	\$ 232	\$ 1
Technology						\$ -
Curriculum/Assessments	\$ 1,643	\$ 57.00	\$ 156	\$ 930	\$ 500	\$ 0
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 3,100	\$ 337.00	\$ 35	\$ 1,725	\$ 1,003	\$ 0
Building Maintenance/Repair						\$ -
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities	\$ 3,909	\$ 801.00	\$ 802	\$ 1,106	\$ 1,183	\$ 17
Furniture						\$ -
Playground/Outdoor space						\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$ 1,000	\$ 97.00		\$ 596	\$ 307	\$ -
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,	\$ 1,000	\$ 461.00	\$ 362		\$ 177	\$ 0
Other-stipends, clinicians and contracted trainers	\$ 24,000	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 4,204	\$ 9,745	\$ 6,301	\$ 0
Total	\$ 120,712	\$ 26,788.00	\$ 26,275	\$ 30,390	\$ 37,240	\$ 18

**Comments:**