

FY2022 Buncombe County Isaac Coleman Grant Report

Organization Name:	Shiloh Community Association	
Project Name:	E.W. Pearson Project Collaborative	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021)
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021)
	X	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022)
		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:	<p>Burton Street Community Association – During the course of this quarter, the leadership of the Burton Street Community Association has been actively working to implement their new vision of increased economic development and community revitalization. Their efforts have garnered the following results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A Neighborhood Grant of \$5,000 from the City of Asheville for community asset mapping. •A partnership with Habitat for Humanity to continue making necessary home repairs in the neighborhood. •A collaboration with the Asheville Buncombe Community Land Trust to provide property tax relief services to residents in the neighborhood. •A new coalition between the three African American churches in the neighborhood that is increasing awareness of the Association’s efforts and identifying other ways to collaborate. •President, DeWayne Barton, continuing to attend the I-26 expansion and betterment meetings to garner the most benefit to the community and its residents. •The community hosting monthly clean-ups on the third Saturday of each month. •A meeting with the senior staff of the City of Asheville’s Parks & Recreation Dept. meeting where representations from the Association providing suggestions on the community center’s improvements and increasing the community involvement in decisions. •A partnership with Hood Huggers International to host the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service event where residents of the neighborhood and citizens from the community participated in the clean-up and garden workday. <p>East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association – Representatives from the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association galvanized the support of City of Asheville’s Councilmember, Ms. Annette Mosley, to advocate for the neighborhood’s request to have the City of Asheville’s Parks and Recreation Dept. to re-include a six-lane track into the historic Memorial Stadium renovation project. After several years of advocating for the inclusion, the Asheville City Council voted to include the neighborhood’s request and the appropriate funding into the project at their March 22, 2022 meeting.</p> <p>The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association continues to implement and support an array of community-based programs. The programs have successfully helped to reduce social isolation for seniors, provide educational enrichment for students, and increased access to organically grown food for residents. The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association is beginning to implement a Dental Assistance Program that developed after several low-resourced elderly</p>
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residents noted the need during interviews when they were visited by Association's Community Health Advocates. The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association received a grant from the WNC Bridge Foundation to begin the program and is collaborating with the Minnie Jones Health Center to provide the dental services.

The East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association worked with Bountiful Cities and the City of Asheville's Parks and Recreation Dept. to continue to host monthly community workdays at the Dr. George Washington Carver Edible Park. The workdays provided the opportunities for volunteers to plant edible food, get hands on demonstrations of gardening techniques, and tour the park.

The leadership of the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association is continuing to provide educational enrichment opportunities for students in collaboration with the Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative, which provides their services primarily in the historic St. James AME Church that is located within the neighborhood. The Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative began their Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Saturday programming in March. It will continue until the end of May. The staff from Bricks4Kids provides the instruction and volunteers provide snacks and lunch for students. The program is provided to students in grades kindergarten to sixth.

During the third quarter, the Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative offered Drum lessons for students. Mr. Darwin Jones, an experienced Drum Instructor, conducted the lessons along with two high school volunteers. Mr. Jones used innovative computer-based instructions in addition to tradition instructions to reach the students. Each participant received a drum pad and sticks to practice their lessons at home.

Project Lighten Up – The staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers of Project Lighten Up continued to effectively provide academic tools for success to students through consistent reinforcement of the academic information students received while at school and access to tutorial support via the Project Lighten Up After-School program. During the third quarter, volunteers from various entities assisted the staff with helping to provide creative instruction to students who needed additional assistance with their academic understanding. Project Lighten Up has been intentional in its efforts to ensure that all students who are a part of the program receive individualized assistance to help them improve this academic and social skills.

The staff has begun to prepare for their Summer Camp by planning to implement expanded services to pre-kindergarten aged students. The staff and Board of Directors of Project Lighten Up have adopted the belief that, "If we have the opportunity to positively impact the first two thousand days of a child's life, we will have a positive impact on the next two thousand days."

Shiloh Community Association – The staff and volunteers from the Shiloh Community Association's Garden have continued to develop partnerships with governmental, educational, nonprofit, and for-profit entities. The partnerships have yielded the following results:

- Burial Beer Company raised \$1,346 for the Shiloh Community Association.
- Warren Wilson College's Bonner Scholarship program's students volunteered in Shiloh.
- The Bonner Scholarship students surveyed the neighborhood residents about capacity building for the future Shiloh Community Association's resource center.
- Dr. Ameena Batada from UNCA's Health and Wellness Department is looking to schedule volunteers to serve in the garden.
- The Citizens Times interviewed Norma Baynes about the City of Asheville's Neighborhood Match Grant that the Shiloh Community Association received.
- On March 4, 2022, the Shiloh Community Association closed on the purchase of the 57 Booker Street property, which provides a road access to the land near the future Shiloh Community Association's Resource Center.
- The Shiloh Community Garden used Tipping Point Grant funding to construct a greenhouse at the Shiloh Garden to be used as a neighborhood plant nursery.
- Bountiful Cities donated \$500 to the garden from a Pisgah Heath Foundation's grant that they received for the staff of the Garden to buy materials for a new herb bed construction.
- The Windfall Collective Nursery from Bountiful Cities Nursery gave the Shiloh Garden a \$200 gift certificate to purchase vegetable, herb and flower starts.

Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:

During the third quarter of the year, the E. W. Pearson Project Collaborative hosted three intercommunity equity-focused meetings. The City of Asheville's newly hired, Parks and Recreation Department Director came to the Collaborative's February meeting to discuss his goals for the department, and to listen to the Collaborative's members' concerns and vision for the Parks and Recreation Dept.'s facilities.

Burton Street Community Association – President, Dewayne Barton, was formally appointed to represent the Burton Street neighborhood on the City of Asheville and Buncombe County newly formed Reparations Commission. He is also continuing to work with the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Office of Civil Rights on issues involving contracting and inclusion of African American businesses and workers as part of the I-26 expansion project. As part of the Burton Street Community Association's efforts to build a stronger network between all neighborhood residents, a neighborhood volunteer has created an online form to collect interested neighbors' information as part of community asset mapping process.

East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association – The leadership of the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association continues to collaborate with the Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative to provide educational and character-building initiatives. During the first quarter of the year, the Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative provided a free anti-bullying book entitled, “You Can’t Bully Me Anymore” written by Brent LaPrince Edwards to students. The Rosa Walker Advancement Initiative has provided over 400 books to students in grades kindergarten through third who attend Hall Fletcher Elementary School, Claxton Elementary School, and participate in the Youth Transformed for Life program. Teachers and student leaders also received a professional video of Brent LaPrince Edwards reading the book along with an Anti-Bullying Guide with activities.

In an effort to increase diversity and inclusion, volunteers from the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association have begun the planning of the “We Rise As One! 2022 East End Valley Street Neighborhood Street Community Heritage Festival. The event will take place on Saturday, August 27, 2022, in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

Additionally, the leadership of the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association and residents of the neighborhood have been actively working with the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County to renovate the historic Cappadocia Church and Grail Street house. The Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County purchased the

church and house from a developer who sought to redevelop the property.

Shiloh Community Association - During the third quarter, the members of Shiloh Community Association's Executive Board actively volunteered to serve on various community-based committees and organizations that positively influence the City of Asheville's and Buncombe County's policies on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Several leaders are also volunteering with Mountain Area Health Education Center's newly created community health committee.

In an effort to decrease racism and increase equity within the community, members of the Shiloh Community have participated in various endeavors including:

- Attending Coming to the Table community meetings. Coming to the Table's approach focuses on "actually doing the transformative work of undoing racism in the community where you live."
- Attending and participating in Asheville Buncombe Food Security Reparations Coalition's meetings. The Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council "has convened a group of local Black leaders, representatives from Asheville's Legacy Neighborhoods and community organizations, and other stakeholders to determine reparations recommendations for the City of Asheville and Buncombe County to address harms caused to food security in Asheville's Black neighborhoods by urban renewal policies."
- Attended a meeting with the representatives from the Asheville Buncombe Community Land Trust to discuss affordable housing opportunities.

Additionally, representatives from the Shiloh Community Association attended and spoke at meetings to discuss racial equity and the Shiloh Community Association's efforts to preserve their neighborhood. Representatives spoke at two of the AC Reynolds Middle School Resource Team's meetings, and at the Nazareth First Missionary Baptist Church located in the East End Valley Street neighborhood.

To celebrate the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, the Shiloh Community Association's Garden staff and volunteers took the organization's Youth Stipend Program participants as well as youth from their partner organization, Buncombe County Alternatives to the Burton Street neighborhood for their rescheduled MLK Day of Service.

Activities related to increasing operational excellence:

Burton Street Community Association – The Burton Street Community Association’s community asset mapping project is now in the pilot phase. The leadership of the organization is continuing to seek administration and grant writing support for the organization. The Burton Street Community Association’s Treasurer attended a QuickBooks course to expand their financial management skills. Burton Street Community Association’s leadership is continuing to work with representatives from the City of Asheville to schedule a tour of the neighborhood to explore possibilities for the city’s investments into the neighborhood’s infrastructure.

East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association – The leadership of the East End Valley Street Neighborhood Association hosted a virtual meeting with the City of Asheville’s Mayor, Esther Manheimer, to discuss the neighborhood’s ongoing needs.

Project Lighten Up – To increase the organization’s fiscal sustainability the staff continued to expand the community partnerships to garner financial support. Project Lighten Up’s program is featured on First Presbyterian Asheville’s website with a link to Amazon for people to donate supplies to the organization. A prominent request for volunteers has been placed on [www. Asheville.com](http://www.Asheville.com) to garner volunteers for the organization.

Shiloh Community Association’s Communication Committee – As part of the Shiloh Community Association’s efforts to increase the neighborhood’s awareness of the various activities, events, meetings, and engagement markets that are occurring within the Shiloh Community, or hosted by the City of Asheville, Buncombe County, and several boards and committees, the Shiloh Community Association implemented a communication’s plan that is being led by committee of volunteers. The Communication’s Committee currently reaches 178 community members using the Shiloh Community Association’s various media resources, which includes their newsletters and Robocalls. The Shiloh Community Association also effectively utilized the organization’s Facebook page to disseminate information to the community. The page has 450 followers who receive regular updates about the organization’s efforts and important community-based information. Due to the increased outreach efforts, residents contact the page’s administrator to get involved with the Shiloh Community Association. The Facebook page administrator shares the contact information with a member of the Shiloh Community Association’s leadership to ensure that the interested individual is contacted.

Due to the increased volume of community-based programs, events, and meetings that are being hosted by the

Association and within the community, members of the Shiloh Community Association's Communication's Committee and the Executive Board members are challenged with staying updated and informed of the increasing activities. Despite the increased volume of information, the members of the Communication's Committee and Executive Board diligently work to ensure the communication is provided to the community using the organization's Facebook page, Robocalls and website.

Shiloh Community Association's Garden – Increasing the Shiloh Community Association's program sustainability continues to be an important endeavor. During the third quarter, the organization's part-time staff submitted a proposal to WNC Bridge Foundation's Impact Grant fund, an application to Buncombe County's Tipping Point grant fund to hire a Black Environmental Educator who will work in the garden, and an application to Buncombe County for a Land Development and Construction Coordinator.

Shiloh Community Association's Garden's Resident Agriculture expert created a crop rotation plan for the upcoming growing season to maximize produce production for the neighborhood. The Shiloh Community Association's Garden received a \$1,000 stipend from North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University to pay a student staff member for two months of environmental education and operational support.

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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 combined community events	20	9	47	18		74
# of individual volunteers	1000	14	41	871		926
# of combined youth participation in school and enrichment programs	185	216	11	489		716

Comments:

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Report of use of funds to date and any budget considerations

General Pearson Project Expenses		Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount Remaining
Spending Category	Starting Budget	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Staff	\$ 20,500	\$ 5,140	\$ 5,140	\$ 5,140		\$ 5,080
Professional Services	\$ 16,001	\$ 553	\$ 2,769	\$ 3,300		\$ 9,379
Subtotal for general expenses	\$ 36,501	\$ 5,693	\$ 7,909	\$ 8,440	\$ -	\$ 14,459

Shiloh Community Association		Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount Remaining
Spending Category	Starting Budget	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Garden Program Coordination	\$ 15,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500		\$ 1,500
Land Development & Planning	\$ 10,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,962	\$ 3,038		\$ -
Events	\$ 3,000	\$ 750	\$ 1,500			\$ 750
Youth Stipends	\$ 2,000	\$ 235	\$ 400	\$ 370		\$ 995
Youth Stipends Match	\$ 1,500	\$ 235	\$ 400	\$ 370		\$ 495
Communications (Newsletter, all call)	\$ 1,333	\$ 165	\$ 165	\$ 165		\$ 838
Subtotal for Shiloh	\$ 32,833	\$ 7,885	\$ 11,927	\$ 8,443	\$ -	\$ 4,578

Burton Street Neighborhood Association		Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount Remaining
Spending Category	Starting Budget	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Website Development	\$ 800		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 800
Advertising	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 500
Newsletter	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 700