

**Buncombe County FY2020 Strategic Partnership Grants
Application Summary Sheet**

Project	Project EMPOWER (Education Means Power)
Organization	Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.

Amount Requested	\$50,000	Strategic Priority or Sustainability Goal	Education/Youth Support
New or Renewal Request	Renewal	Commissioner Districts Served	All

Organization Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. (MZCD) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community-based redevelopment corporation focused on (1) empowerment of the individual and community by providing spiritual, economic, socio-economic, education, and cultural opportunities to the greater Asheville/Buncombe County community to address the need for jobs, housing, crime prevention, education and health care, and (2) collaboration with local community-based organizations in the physical redevelopment of the “Block” for housing and supportive services.
Project Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership w/ Asheville City Schools District & Asheville City Schools Foundation, Project EMPOWER will implement evidence based curricula during & after school; providing comprehensive age & culturally appropriate sexual health information Goals: To prevent the school drop-out rate, teen pregnancy & sexually transmitted infections by providing youth & teens w/ essential education, supporting academic achievement & encouraging parent/teen involvement.
People Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposes to serve 220 youth & teens who reside in or attend school in the Asheville City Schools District. Utilizing a holistic approach: Initial assessments, one-on-one meetings, empowerment plans & referrals as needed.
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizes Pre-Post participation satisfaction surveys as well as Pre-Post Teen Pregnancy Prevention Surveys to track qualitative data on satisfaction, knowledge acquisition and behavior changes. Project EMPOWER staff also completes monthly logs to track quantitative data on monthly activities with participants, including 80% Decrease in sexual activity; 80% Decrease in number of sexual partners; 90% Decrease in unprotected sex; 90%: Increased knowledge on condom use & contraceptives

Budget			
Amount Funded FY2019	\$10,000	Increase Request	\$40,000
Project Budget	\$205,000	Total Organization Budget	\$205,000
Other Funding Sources: State of NC, Buncombe County, Pending requests to City of Asheville & foundation grants			

Additional Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistent progress toward performance targets for FY2019 grant Project NAF has a County Public Health contract for \$45,000 Project EMPOWER & NAF have been funded by NCDHHS for years, but they’ve received notice for FY2020 that the funding will not be renewed. This is a loss of \$75,000 from TIPPI for Project EMPOWER plus \$80,000 from Healthy Beginnings for Project NAF, effective June 1. The state grants that aren’t being renewed represent roughly 72% of the total agency budget. County funding makes up about 26%

Project EMPOWER (Education Means Power)

FY2020 Strategic Partnership Grants

Mount Zion Community Development, Inc.

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Application Form

Question Group

Please complete the form below and upload the required files for your application. Organizations submitting more than one project must complete one submission form for each project. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Priority is given to nonprofit organizations with projects that contribute to Buncombe County's strategic priorities or sustainability goals.

For FY2020, no Strategic Partnership Grant applications will be considered for the strategic priorities "Affordable Housing" or "Early Childhood Education." Funding for affordable housing projects is managed through Buncombe County's Affordable Housing Services Program. Funding for early childhood projects will be managed through the newly forming Early Childhood Education and Development Fund.

Project Name*

Name of Project.

Project EMPOWER (Education Means Power)

Amount Requested*

\$50,000.00

Strategic Priority*

Which of the following priorities best reflects the primary goal of your project?

Buncombe County Commissioners are dedicated to strengthening the quality of life for everyone by setting new fiscally, socially and environmentally responsible goals that will guide decisions and improve our community for future generations. The Board has committed to strategic priorities as a guide to shape partnerships and investments of resources to insure a healthy, safe, well-educated, thriving and sustainable community.

Details about the Strategic Priorities are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Other Sustainability Goal

Strategic Priority - Other Sustainability Goal

If you selected "Other Sustainability Goal" from the list of Strategic Priorities, please list it here.

Details about the Sustainability Goals are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Community: Quality Education-Increase high school graduation rate

Organization Description*

Tell us about your organization. What is your mission? Highlight two or three key facts and accomplishments that best define your organization.

Mount Zion Community Development, Inc. (MZCD) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community-based redevelopment corporation focused on (1) empowerment of the individual and community by providing spiritual, economic, socio-economic, education, and cultural opportunities to the greater Asheville/Buncombe County community to address the need for jobs, housing, crime prevention, education and health care, and (2) collaboration with local community-based organizations in the physical redevelopment of the “Block” for housing and supportive services.

1. MZCD understands the interconnectedness of programs & services & champion efforts to maximize services to families by bridging the gap between agencies/programs- collaborative planning & resource sharing
2. Valuing the lives of population served by Enhancing Collaborative Health Options & Opportunities (ECHO) to impact health disparities
3. Corporation's programs: Recipient of national/state honors impacting health disparities. (See attachments)

Project Description

What do you propose to do? What is your plan? What are your goals?

Project EMPOWER Proposal: To serve 220 youth/teens who reside in or attend school in the Asheville City Schools District (ACSD)

Plan: In partnership w/t he Asheville City Schools District & Asheville City Schools Foundation, Project EMPOWER will implement evidence based curricula during & after school; providing comprehensive age & culturally appropriate sexual health information

Goals: To prevent the school drop-out rate, teen pregnancy & sexually transmitted infections by providing youth & teens w/ essential education, supporting academic achievement & encouraging parent/teen involvement.

Activities inclusive of but not limited to: Pre-Post surveys, evidence-based curricula, psychosocial assessment, empowerment plans, incentives, referrals to community resources based on a participant/family's need(s), follow-up re: academic needs-if shared, monthly educational mailings and updates to parents, and regular consults w/Asheville City Schools/Foundation & community partnerships

Key Steps*

How will the project work? What are specific activities and milestones that your project entails?

- 1) Reduce the incidence of teen pregnancy;
- 2) Increase high school graduation rate among project participants, and
- 3) Increase access to mental health and substance abuse counseling for program participants

Reducing the Risk classes will be provided during school hours at AHS and SILSA. Reducing the Risk will run 10 weeks during the 1st Semester at AHS and SILSA & will be repeated during the 2nd Semester. Two (2) groups of fifteen 9th grade students will meet once per week for 90 minutes during school hours.

Making Proud Choices! classes will be provided after school hours in collaboration with Asheville City Schools Foundation's In Real Life Program . The curriculum will be presented two times per week, each group attending one session per week for 90 minutes. Students will participate in classes within their grade level; 2 groups of 5 students will participate each semester; one group for each of 6th, and 7th graders. A third class for 8th grade will be facilitated as needed.

Area Served*

Which areas of the County will be served by this project? Which Commissioner District(s) will be served?

A Buncombe County Commissioner district map is available at [THIS LINK](#).

Districts 1, 2 and 3

People Served*

Who are the members of our community this project will serve? How many people will be served? Include demographics, including age, area median income, race, neighborhood and/or school.

Project EMPOWER propose to serve 220 youth & teens who reside in or attend school in the Asheville City Schools District. Utilizing a holistic approach: Initial assessments, one-on-one meetings, empowerment plans & referrals as needed

Demographics/Age/Median Income/Race: Plans are to target African American students & other minorities who have the (1) the highest antecedents for teen pregnancy, & (2) high level of exposure to environmental and individual risk factors for teen pregnancy and school drop-out rate. However, due to the % of African American students enrolled in the 9th grade, Project EMPOWER will serve teens of all races/socio-economic status to reduce teen pregnancy/school drop-out.

Demographics: Medium Income: \$43,311.00; Asheville High school 1,057 students (56% females & 44% males); Asheville Middle School 704 students (52% females & 48% males)

Neighborhoods: AHS & SILSA: McDowell St; AMS: S. French Broad Ave; N Star Academy: Montford St

Partners*

Which other organizations are you working with to reach your goals? What other local organizations provide similar services or serve similar beneficiaries, and how do you work together?

Asheville City & Buncombe County are blessed with diverse community organizations committed to the reduction of Teen Pregnancy, HIV/AIDS/STIs & the School Drop-Out Rate. Realizing strategic alliances achieve greater impact than any organization could generate on its own. Community stakeholders: Asheville City Schools District & Foundation, ABCCM, Asheville Parks & Rec, Baptist Ministers Union, BCHHS, Buncombe County Govt, CWA Learning Center, Gateway-Buncombe Fatherhood Initiative, Helpmate, IMA,

MotherLove, Mt. Zion Baptist Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville, Inc., Our Voice, SPARC Foundation, The Urban News, WNCAP, WNCCHS & WRES

Similar Services: Buncombe County's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative Serving Youth in Foster Care. Project EMPOWER has approval from the ACSD to implement evidence based curricula during school hours at AHS & SILSA & after hours through the ACSF

Collaborative support meetings/consultations are held regularly to minimize duplication of services

Personnel*

Who is responsible for the project? Briefly describe project leaders and the role each will play in the project. How do these leaders reflect the population or community that you serve?

Belinda K. Grant, Executive Director has primary oversight of day-to-day operations of the Corporation. Supervision, planning, organizing & directing implementation & operations of designated projects. Working w/the Board of Directors of the Corporation to fulfill its Mission Statement & Enhancing Collaborative Health Options & Opportunities

Sapphire De'Bellott Project EMPOWER Outreach Worker: Primary classroom facilitator, provision of comprehensive case coordinator & support services to program participants

Rosa B. Hearst: Receptionist: Responsible for greeting guests upon arrival, receiving mail & assisting staff with special projects

Plan: To hire a Latino Outreach Worker to provide comprehensive outreach services. A former, full time Latino staff person has served in a different program capacity.

All Staff: Trained in and pledge to implement evidence-based curricula with full-fidelity. All staff reflect the population served as all are minorities

Success*

How will you measure results? What will success look like? How will you document the impact of your project? Include whether there is a model that serves as basis for project design.

Project EMPOWER utilizes Pre-Post participation satisfaction surveys as well as Pre-Post Teen Pregnancy Prevention Surveys to track qualitative data on satisfaction, knowledge acquisition and behavior changes. Project EMPOWER staff also completes monthly logs to track quantitative data on monthly activities with participants.

Data is entered monthly on a database.

Program Outcomes Submissions:

80%: Decrease in sexual activity/
 80%: Decrease in number of sexual partners
 90%: Decrease in unprotected sex
 90%: Increased knowledge on condom use & contraceptives
 Impact: Data logged on database to track quantitative data which will be submitted on requested reports
 Project Model Design: Making Proud Choices! & Reducing the Risk evidence-based safer-sex approaches to reduce STDs, HIV & pregnancy Proven to empower adolescents to change their behaviors-reduced risk of HIV/STDs & significantly decreasing % of unintended pregnancies

Funding*

What is your plan for finding the balance of the project budget? What is your funding timeline and what are your other sources of support?

MZCD is cognizant of the fact that financial sustainability is needed to ensure quality service delivery & to ensure that the Corporation has what it takes to go the long haul to meet goals & objectives listed in contractual agreements; and that it has what it takes to finish the task. As a non-profit, MZCD had faced financial challenges but the Executive Director meets w/ the board regularly to keep them informed of operational issues & works w/ them to come up w/ strategic solutions to complex challenges. Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church remains an anchor to assist w/financial needs.

Proposed Funding for the Project EMPOWER Program:

City of Asheville Strategic Partnership Grant: \$50,000 Requested

Other Proposed Sources for Financial Support:

Community Foundation of WNC: Janirve, rolling deadline, & Melvin R. Lane Fund due 12-3-2019

NC GlaxcoSmithKline Foundation: Due 4-1-2019

MZCD plans to pursue grant opportunities as available and will notify Buncombe County of updates

Sustainability*

How will this project be maintained? Please describe funding sources and how you plan to sustain the project in future years.

Sustainability: Plans are for programs to be sustained through additional grant funding. Present funding sources are: NC DHHS Healthy Beginnings Project & Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative; BCHHS for the Project NAF Program; & Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant for the Project EMPOWER Program.

Plan:

1.To pursue additional grant funding so MZCD services will become a permanent part of community resources-to the extent possible. 2. To continue working so service delivery will be seen as a value to Buncombe County in meeting a need to impact health disparities. 3.To ensure programs/projects are part of a changing community system. Continued Needs: structure transformation; program development: long-term grant possibilities; to seek guidance from grant funders to explore address necessary changes to develop sustainability through social marketing & growth of program income; Corporation keeping itself abreast of grant funding opportunities that align w/Mission.

ATTACHMENTS

Project Budget*

Download the budget form at **THIS LINK**.

Complete the budget form for this project and the overall organization.

Save it to your computer, then upload it.

Buncombe Strategic Partnership Grants FY2020 Project Budget 2-8-2019.xlsx

Financial Statements

Upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements.

All financial statements must be audited, reviewed or compiled by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

MZCD 2018 Review Final Report.pdf

IRS Form 990

Upload a copy of the 990 nonprofit tax reporting form that you most recently completed.

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

MZCD 2016 Form 990 Final for Public Inspection.pdf Year Ending June 30, 2017.pdf

Board of Directors List

Upload a current list of your organization's Board of Directors.

If your organization does not have a board of directors, briefly state the reason.

MZCD Board of Directors 2018.doc

Authorized Signatory

By typing in below the name of the authorized signatory and date of submittal, you acknowledge that your governing body has authorized this application, that it is true and current to your knowledge. As a condition of any grant awarded, this organization will provide all information in the manner described in the contract to be executed between the organization and Buncombe County or its designee, including program and financial reporting.

Name & Date

Belinda Kennedy Grant February 8, 2019

Other attachments or supplemental information may be submitted to Rachael Nygaard at rachael.nygaard@buncombecounty.org

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Buncombe Strategic Partnership Grants FY2020 Project Budget 2-8-2019.xlsx
- MZCD 2018 Review Final Report.pdf
- MZCD 2016 Form 990 Final for Public Inspection.pdf Year Ending June 30, 2017.pdf
- MZCD Board of Directors 2018.doc