

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

Project	MSTMT: - Addressing Worsening Asheville Achievement and Discipline Gaps
Organization	My Sistah Taught Me That

Amount Requested	\$60,000	Strategic Priority or Sustainability Goal	Education/Youth Support
New or Renewal Request	New	Commissioner Districts Served	All

Organization Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My Sistah Taught Me That (MSTMT) is a youth development program supporting young girls between the ages of 13-19 throughout Buncombe County and the city of Asheville at large, through advocacy, education, and mentoring. MSTMT meets with participants bi-weekly and offers at least one activity or program each month with additional exposure trips that take place quarterly. The purpose of MSTMT is to foster the development of our youth to become healthy, honorable citizens by providing a stable environment and extracurricular activities for youth to participate in throughout their adolescent years.
Project Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans to partner with school systems and administrations to further address the educational support required for student's success. Also plans to partner with Asheville city and Buncombe County officials, local housing administration, law enforcement and medical professionals with the objective of obtaining better relationships to gain understanding for common ground that will lead to the success of youth which will ultimately lead to better outcomes.
People Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will serve the entire city of Asheville. Currently has 80 young girls enrolled in the program and by the start of the 2019/2020 school year, will have and be able to track data for 100 young girls. The goal is to have the impact of this specific project expand to be able to serve more in coming school years.
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results will be measured through pre and post data directly from school administrators, surveys from parents and participants, writing assignments, and other tools provided by our partners. This project will be a success by tremendously increasing outcomes in direct correlation to recent publications by local news outlets which will change the view of the educational system and community engagement as a whole. Success looks like students and families who reside in our community will not only be smarter, but they will be healthier (both physically and mentally), and students will be set up for success.

Budget			
Amount Funded FY2019	n/a	Increase Request	n/a
Project Budget	\$71,000	Total Organization Budget	\$81,000
Other Funding Sources: donations, fundraiser, grants			

Additional Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiscal agent is My Daddy Taught Me That

MSTMT: - Addressing Worsening Asheville Achievement and Discipline Gaps

FY2020 Strategic Partnership Grants

My Sistah Taught Me That

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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.

MSTMT: - Addressing Worsening Asheville Achievement and Discipline Gaps

Amount Requested*

\$60,000.00

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](#).

Justice Resource Support

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](#).

Early Childhood Education

Organization Description*

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

My Sistah Taught Me That (MSTMT) is a youth development program supporting young girls between the ages of 13-19 throughout Buncombe County and the city of Asheville at large, through advocacy, education, and mentoring. MSTMT meets with participants bi-weekly and offers at least one activity or program each month with additional exposure trips that take place quarterly. The purpose of MSTMT is to foster the development of our youth to become healthy, honorable citizens by providing a stable environment and extracurricular activities for youth to participate in throughout their adolescent years. We are intentional about providing resources and education around our youth making positive decisions, accepting responsibility, and leading by example. MSTMT was intended for young girls growing up in single parent homes without their fathers, however, we have successfully enrolled over 200 young ladies throughout our 3 years of programming from all walks of life, cultural backgrounds.

Project Description

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

The leadership of MSTMT has developed close relationships within school administrations of both Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools. Through advocacy, finding educational resources for participants such as tutoring, college advisement, and mental health resources, we have noticed firsthand the disparities for underserved youth. This deficit leads to social determinates of health, low self-esteem, disgruntled parents, and ultimately our youth are left feeling defeated. We plan to tackle this holistically by partnering with school systems and administrations to further address the educational support required for student's success. We also plan to partner with Asheville city and Buncombe County officials, local housing administration, law enforcement and medical professionals with the objective of obtaining better relationships to gain understanding for common ground that will lead to the success of our youth which will ultimately lead to better outcomes.

Key Steps*

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

This project will be embedded within our regular programming. During this programming, we will bring in speakers from the agencies mentioned above to develop more trusting relationships and resources. In addition to our routine programming, our leadership team will develop individual plans with each school our youth currently represent. We have students at Asheville High, Asheville Middle, TC Roberson, Reynolds High, Reynolds Middle, Erwin High, Erwin Middle, and Enka High. We will track the outcomes based on school assessments and grades, mental health evaluations, pre and post surveys, and parental support both initially and at the end of the project. The data will be recorded and presented at a reception for all partners, MSTMT participants, and other community leaders who would like to attend. This will be based off the 2019/2020 school year.

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](#).

Areas served by this project include Commissioner Districts 1, 2, and 3. We will serve the entire city of Asheville. We currently have 80 young girls enrolled in the program and by the start of the 2019/2020 school year, we will have and be able to track data for 100 young girls. The goal is to have the impact of this specific project expand to be able to serve more in coming school years.

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.

This project will serve multiple areas and people. Beginning with our MSTMT participants, ages 13-19. These youth are hungry for additional support that unfortunately they may not be receiving from home for multiple reasons. To that point, we will also serve their parents. Many parents seek support from our programming not only to mentor and support their children, but also to provide a means of shelter, food, and resources to assist with the cost of living here in Asheville. Additionally, the health professionals, law enforcement, school administration, mental health and human services partners, and others who will join us in this project will gain insight and hopefully, appreciation, by building relationships with our youth that will further expand their approach to gain better future outcomes. Our participants reside in Klondyke, Bingham Heights, Pisgah View, Emma, and Deaverview Housing Apartments. We also have students in Arden, & West Asheville. (school list above)

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?

We will continue to work with the school administration as we do now, but for this project specifically, we will be developing a closer relationship with the Asheville City and Buncombe County School Boards and Superintendents. We will also be working with the United Way representatives at the schools where they currently have representation (Erwin Middle and Asheville Middle). In addition, we will be working more closely with the Mental Health and Social Work support teams at each school, Mission Health (to address social determinates of health), Helpmate (to provide support for youth and parents dealing with unhealthy domestic situations at home), Spark Network (to provide speakers from their programs who can advise and encourage youth, and for administrative support), and Biltmore Church (to provide spiritual guidance as many families are driven by their faith). Strong relationships have already been formed with these organizations. We are looking forward to working together.

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?

My Sistah Taught Me That is led by Leslie Council Lake. She is the visionary of this project and the backbone of the participants and parents of those involved in MSTMT. She will be the lead on this project and will be responsible for conducting meetings, carrying out the vision, and delegating tasks to the team. We are partnering with UNC-Asheville to obtain a student intern who will be responsible for tracking pre and post data. Leslie will design and present the powerpoint that will be shared to the community at the end of the project. MSTMT has successfully graduated 3 participants from High School. Now that they are in college, their role in the program is to assist with advocacy and mentoring of their younger sistah's. Two of the three young ladies are attending AB-Tech. They will assist Leslie in this project by keeping minutes at meetings, scheduling appointments, making phone calls, and other administrative duties. Other admin staff include the CoreCrew of MSTMT.

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.

Results will be measured through pre and post data directly from school administrators, surveys from parents and participants, writing assignments, and other tools provided by our partners. This project will be a success if/when we are able to tremendously increase outcomes in direct correlation to recent publications by local news outlets which will change the view of the educational system and community engagement as a whole. Success looks like our students and families who reside in our community will not only be smarter, but they will be healthier (both physically and mentally), and our students will be set up for success. All data will be recorded and tracked. We are writing this project as a model to be replicated as often as possible in this county/city until our outcomes remain consistent and biases are removed from being barriers to our youth. The goal is to take this model to other communities as needed as a successful guide to enhance communities around the world.

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?

We have an incredible team of volunteers and through our partnership with UNCA, we are all working on submitting more local and federal proposals for this project. We also have a plan to increase our donor base which will contribute to this project. Last, we have several annual fundraisers planned for this year that will specifically go towards this project. Our funding timeline is consistent with the 2019/2020 school year. The plan is to begin securing that meetings are scheduled early summer before the school year begins. We will also schedule speakers who will come to our bi-weekly programming that will begin in August. Funding will go directly to speakers, facilitators, food, programming materials, and volunteer support for data entry, transportation, and facilities. Other sources of support include additional grant requests, Board of Directors give/get, and individual and private donors who have pledged to invest in the project.

Sustainability*

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

This project will be maintained by obtaining investments of the community leaders partnering with our initiative, our Board of Directors' give/get, and local community members who will have an opportunity to give directly toward this project through our website and social media campaigns. This will be an ongoing project as our goal is to maintain the momentum and continue to ensure specific targets are met and exceed thresholds throughout our participants' time with MSTMT. We plan to send each participant to college with the full support of their community and encourage them to return to home after college to share their experiences and invest in the generation behind them. The goal is for our youth to have an appreciation for this program's investment in their lives so we can pass the baton and they carry the program on for years to come.

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.

Strategic Partnership Grant Budget.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.

Our accountant is in the middle of tax season and has been unable to produce the most recent financial statement. We are expecting that he produce this for our program as soon as possible and can provide this information to you upon receipt.

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.

501c3 IRS Exempt Form.JPG

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.

MSTMT Board Members.pdf

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

Leslie Council 2/8/2019

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

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Strategic Partnership Grant Budget.xlsx
- 501c3 IRS Exempt Form.JPG
- MSTMT Board Members.pdf