

# Learning and Growing Together

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## *FY2021 Strategic Partnership Grants*

### ***YTL Training Program***

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### ***Ms. Parris Mae Finley***

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# Application Form

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## ***INSTRUCTIONS***

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As part of the FY2021 Strategic Partnership Grants program, Buncombe County requests proposals for community-based projects working toward outcomes in alignment with Strategic Plan focus areas.

Please refer to the Grant Guidelines published on the Strategic Partnership Grants website at [buncombecounty.org/grants](http://buncombecounty.org/grants) for complete information about the grant program, including: Purpose; Funding; Eligibility; Timeline; Grant writing workshop; Review process; Awards; and more.

**Applications are due by 5:00 on February 14, 2020.**

## ***BASIC INFORMATION***

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**BASIC INFORMATION – Before completing the application, please tell us a little about the request.**

### **Project Name\***

Learning and Growing Together

### **Strategy\***

Recognizing that some projects will use more than one strategy, select the strategy that most closely applies to this project:

- Environmental Stewardship - High quality air, water, farmland and renewable energy for future generations
- Educated & Capable Community - A county where all people thrive and demonstrate resilience throughout their lives
- Vibrant Economy - A robust and sustainable economy that builds on homegrown industries/talent and provides economic mobility for all
- Resident Well-Being - A county where residents are safe, healthy, and engaged in their community

Educated & Capable Community

### **Funding Request\***

How much funding is this project requesting for FY2021?

\$100,000.00

### Grant Guidelines\*

Have you read and understand the information presented in the FY2021 Grant Guidelines Strategic Partnership Grants?

Click here for the Grant Guidelines.

If no, please contact County staff to request assistance: Rachael Nygaard, (828) 250-6536 or rachael.nygaard@buncombecounty.org.

Yes

### Nonprofit Status\*

Upload proof of nonprofit status, such as IRS Determination Letter or documentation from the North Carolina Secretary of State. If this documentation is not available, briefly state the reason.

nonprofit.jpeg

### Board of Directors\*

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.

List of Current Board Members.pdf

## APPLICATION

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**APPLICATION QUESTIONS – Responses to these questions will be scored by the grant committee. Each question is worth 10% of the final score.**

### Organization\*

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

YTL will support all disenfranchised communities as they strive to succeed in an inequitable system. As educators, mentors, advocates, and neighbors we will create bridges for children and families to overcome the current gaps of disparity. We will be guardians of the rights of children and their families, and we will make sure all community members are informed of those rights. By meeting community members where they are, physically and emotionally, we will earn their trust and offer tools they can choose to employ as they work towards prosperity. Our ultimate goal is to cultivate a contagious community of compassion in which all human beings are guaranteed access to proper education, health services, safety, and economic stability. YTL Training Programs has been providing free summer camp for youth ages 11-16 years old with emotional, academic and social challenges for the past six years. In addition, YTL Training Programs has been providing free summer camp for girls ages 8-11 for two years and boys ages 8-11 for a year. YTL Training Programs has

provided free after school programming for youth ages 11-16 for the past four years, for girls ages 7-11 for two years and boys ages 1-11 for 1 year.

### **Need for the Project\***

What is the main issue this project is established to address? What data or qualitative factors/stories are available to show that need?

Children and youth of color in Buncombe County are experiencing trauma at an alarming rate. Five primary and elementary schools in Asheville earned an F ranking for the academic performance of its black students, as did both the middle schools in the district and Asheville High earned a D for that subgroup. 68% of Black students in Buncombe County were not proficient in math and 50% of Hispanic students were not proficient as opposed to only 33% of white students being not proficient. 69% of Black students, 61% of Hispanic students and only 34% of white students were not proficient in reading. 35% of Black students, 42% of Hispanic students and only 18% of white students were not proficient in science. 81% of Black students, 52% of Hispanic students, and only 22% of white students were not proficient in Math in Asheville City Schools. 66% of Black students, 46% of Hispanic students and only 17% of white students were not proficient in reading in Asheville City Schools. 66% of Black students, 36% of Hispanic students and no white students were not proficient in science in Asheville City Schools.

### **Project\***

Explain the project and how it will work. Include the overall purpose and any models or evidence-based practices that will be included. What specific activities and milestones are included in the project plan?

Learning and Growing together is a project that seeks to center the voices of children and youth of color in Buncombe County. The purpose of this project is to provide brave spaces for children and youth to have voice in the issues that are impeding their progress in the Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools and in community. Working with local artist, children and youth of color and their families will be invited to share their experiences within the two school systems. They will also be invited to share their experiences in community and in more public spaces like the mall, public parks and buildings etc. While children and youth share their stories, artist will create images with words that are inspired by the stories that are being shared. In each session there will be lessons about how art can be used for healing and relationship building. Prior to the session, youth will be trained to actively listen and record words that stand out or resonates with them as the stories are being told. In addition, pairs will be given the opportunity to record their stories using different mediums like animation, poetry, video recording, etc. At the end of the summer, participants who have completed the project during GRACE Summer camp will be invited to be a part of the formation of Asheville Children and Youth of Color Advisory Council.

### **People Served\***

How many people will be served by this project? Describe the people served, including demographics such as geography, income, race & ethnicity, age, etc.

The project will begin by serving 40 children and youth during YTL's summer program and will serve another 30 children and youth during YTL's afterschool program. Over the course of the year there will also be six community events with the ability to service 20 children and youth with each program. The total number of participants served by this project will be 170-200. This project will serve students of color attending Asheville City and Buncombe County schools. 80% of targeted population will live in public or low income housing and will be African American or Hispanic children and youth between the ages of 7-18.

## Results\*

What results do you hope to achieve with this project? Be specific about how much impact the project will have in line with Commissioner focus areas.

Through this project we hope to achieve three things. First, we want to center the voices of children and youth in learning, experimenting, reflecting, analyzing and redesigning in a cyclical process aimed and creating and testing effective strategies in working with children and youth of color to work toward the reduction of the "opportunity" gap. Second, use participatory action research to test strategies of healing through art in discovering the perceptions of those most effected by the opportunity gap and using the information gathered to develop educational strategies for school and communities to work collaboratively to address the needs and wants of children and youth of color in Buncombe County as we seek to reduce the opportunity gap and create a more equitable system that address the needs of children of color. Third, the formation of the Asheville Children and Youth of Color Advisory Council who will be sharing with schools and the greater community what worked, what didn't work and what was learned and the implications for further research and improved strategies for working with students of color

## Evaluation\*

How will you know you have succeeded? Explain the project evaluation process, including specific measures that will be tracked.

We will know that we have succeeded when we identify potential strategies for improving the success of children and youth of color in school and in communities. This project will be evaluated using a series of surveys for parents, teachers and participants. Success will look like our participants increasing there SEARS assessment scores after completing the project. Success will look like having developed strategies to be used in the quest to reduce the opportunity gap. Success will look like the formation of a youth advisory council that will make school and community recommendations that center the voices of children and youth in addressing academic and social inequities. This advisory council, The Asheville Children and Youth of Color Advisory Council, will produce literature for distribution to schools and community organizations working with children and youth of color. This group along with the artists in residence, will design and deliver two events fundraisers to share the information gathered and next steps. This group will also work with other children and youth to continue the participatory action research.

## Collaboration\*

List any formal and/or supportive partners. Describe their roles in the project. How will they make it stronger?

Supportive partners who may become formal partners are Asheville Writers in Schools, independent artists in Asheville and other organizations that offer training and practice in mindfulness, resiliency, yoga etc. Their roles will involve contracting to provide services in their areas of expertise to work with YTL to build resiliency and mindfulness in our youth with practices that will empower them in school and in community.

## Budget\*

Download a copy of the budget form [HERE](#). Complete the form, and upload it using the button below.

Explain how grant funds will be used, specifically what type of expenses will be covered by County funds. Describe other sources of revenue, including type of funding, source, restrictions and status.

FY21\_SPGrant\_Budget\_Form\_YTL.xlsx

42,500 of county funds would be used for staff. These staff members will be work with participants throughout the summer with mindfulness and resiliency strategies that will we hope that they will continue to access as the school year starts and they reenter the school environment. \$10,000 will be used to purchase art material, animation programs, cameras and audio recording for artists and participants to be able to use throughout the project. \$20,000 will be used for community events that will highlight the work done and for smaller events to engage more participants in the projects. These funds will cover space, interpretation, childcare, food and any other fees associated with the events. \$10,000 will be used to purchase five Chromebooks and to organize and publish the action research to be shared in Asheville City and Buncombe County Schools and with organizations within Buncombe County who work with children and youth of color and to print shirts that will be should to support continuing the participatory action research. The rest of county funds will be used to contract artists, \$7,500, pay accountant, \$1,500, space, \$6,000, payroll taxes and insurance \$2,800.

### Other County Funding\*

List all other Buncombe County funding that is provided to your organization. For each item, list the project being funded, amount of funding, source (grant, departmental contract, etc.) and whether funding is to be renewed for FY2021.

Isaac Coleman - Finishing our third and final year of funding of our GRACE for Teens Summer, After School and Advocacy programming.

### Sustainability\*

How will the project continue to succeed after the funding of the grant? Explain your plan for making this an ongoing effort.

The project will continue to succeed via revenue raised through two yearly fundraising events that will include the auctioning of art pieces created during the participatory action research. The project itself will operate as a grow your own as youth who have been through the process take on greater responsibility in creating works of art that represent shared stories. Participants will sell shirts made during the project. We will also seek cooperate sponsorship of this asking community stakeholders to continue their investment in our youth.

## OPTIONAL INFORMATION

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**OPTIONAL INFORMATION – This information will not impact grant scoring but will be helpful to the committee.**

### Partial Funding

If the project were to be offered a grant for partial funding, what factors would need to be considered?

If partial funding is granted what will need to be considered is the number of participants that YTL will be able to engage outside of Summer and After School programming.

## Resource Support

Beyond this grant request, how can Buncombe County support your organization with this project and in strengthening your work?

YTL has been working in community for six years and is in desperate need of space!

## Other

Is there anything else that you want the committee to know?

YTL Services.docx

This project is based in the concept of Participatory Action Research. This is an approach to research in communities that emphasizes participation and action. It is also an inquiry process that includes gathering of information, thinking critically, analyzing and problem solving while continuing to strengthen the voices of children and youth to address the educational inequities that exist in Buncombe County and Asheville City Schools. The gist of Participatory Action Research is that we are seeking to understand why these inequities exist by gathering information to try to change the inequities collaboratively with points of reflection, redesign, inquiry, resign and more experimentation grounded in the information gathered in the process.

## File Attachment Summary

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### ***Applicant File Uploads***

- nonprofit.jpeg
- List of Current Board Members.pdf
- FY21\_SPGrant\_Budget\_Form\_YTL.xlsx
- YTL Services.docx



INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
P. O. BOX 2508  
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

JUL 24 2015

YTL TRAINING PROGRAMS  
32 MELBOURN PL  
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801-3521

Employer Identification Number:  
47-1832861  
DLN:  
17053049348045  
Contact Person:  
LORI PERRY ID# 31107  
Contact Telephone Number:  
(877) 829-5500  
Accounting Period Ending:  
December 31  
Public Charity Status:  
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)  
Form 990 Required:  
Yes  
Effective Date of Exemption:  
August 28, 2014  
Contribution Deductibility:  
Yes  
Addendum Applies:  
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

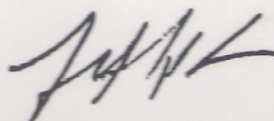
Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities). Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

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YTL TRAINING PROGRAMS

Sincerely,



Jeffrey I. Cooper  
Director, Exempt Organizations  
Rulings and Agreements

## Current Board Members

Name	Board Title	Term	Committee(s)	Phone	E-mail
Tony Shivers	Chairman	1	Executive Committee Programming Committee		tshiversbaseball@gmail.com
Reese Huffman	Secretary	1	Executive Committee		reesehuffman@yahoo.com
Mary Katherine Goodwin	Treasure	1	Finance Committee Executive Committee		mkgoodwin@yahoo.com
Rhonda Sizemore	Vice Chairman	1	Education Committee Executive Committee		rgcoreander@gmail.com
Laura Lane		1	Education Committee		laura.lane@acsghmail.net
Tilman Jackson		1	Finance Committee		tilman@westerncarolinarescue.org
Libby Kyles			Education Committee		libkyles@gmail.com

<p><b>Youth Transformed for Life</b>          Location: 32 Melbourne Place          Asheville, NC 28801          Phone: (828) 575-2434</p>	<p><b>Libby Kyles</b>          YTL Executive Director            Phone: (828) 582-7094</p>
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E-Mail: [yttraining@gmail.com](mailto:yttraining@gmail.com)

E-Mail: [lkyles.yttraining@gmail.com](mailto:lkyles.yttraining@gmail.com)

# Strategic Partnership Grants

## Proposed FY2021 Project Budget (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021)

<b>Organization Name:</b>	<b>YTL Training Programs</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Learning and Growing Together</b>
<b>Grant Amount Requested:</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

FY2021 Proposed Project Revenue	Amount	Committed or Pending?
Proposed Buncombe County Strategic Partnerships Grant	\$ 100,000	Pending
Strategic Patnership Fund	\$ 30,000	Pending
ZSmith Reynolds	\$ 30,000	Pending
Dogwood Trust	\$ 25,000	Pending
List other sources:		
List other sources:		
List other sources:		
List other sources:		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 185,000</b>	

FY2021 Proposed Project Expenses	Proposed Grant	Other Funds	Total	Notes
Personnel	\$ 42,500	\$ 25,000	\$ 67,500	
Training		\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	
Travel		\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	
Supplies / Materials	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	
Meetings (Food, Interpreting, Child Care, etc.)	\$ 20,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 32,000	
Equipment / Furniture	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	
Printing / Marketing	\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000	
Licensing / Memberships / Dues / Subscriptions			\$ -	
Client Support			\$ -	
Contracts	\$ 7,500		\$ 7,500	
Professional Services (Legal, Accounting, etc.)	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,800	\$ 3,300	
Insurance and Bonds	\$ 300	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,300	
Building Maintenance (Rent, Utilities, Repairs, etc.)	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 9,000	
List other costs: Payroll Taxes	\$ 2,500	\$ 7,625	\$ 10,125	
List other costs:			\$ -	
List other costs:			\$ -	
List other costs:			\$ -	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 168,225</b>	

Overall Organization Budget	Amount	Notes
FY2019 Actual Year-End Revenue	\$ 190,000	
FY2019 Actual Year-End Expenses	\$ 188,000	
FY2020 Adopted Budget Amount	\$ 250,000	
FY2021 Proposed Budget Amount	\$ 288,000	

### **YTL G.R.A.C.E For Teens Summer Camp**

Through GRACE for Teens (summer program), participants will attend camp daily for eight weeks-8:30am to 5:30pm Monday through Friday. Collaborations with ClayWorks, The Asheville Museum of Science, Equinox Horse Therapy, and Asheville Writers in Schools will provide diverse programming. Participants will be immersed in mindfulness to create and promote self awareness. Participants will travel weekly to water parks enjoying the thrills of summer while also learning from and giving back to the community through participation in community services like Meals on Wheels.

### **YTL R.O.S.E.S Summer Camp**

We work with third through eighth grade girls to improve their self image and self esteem. Through summer programming YTL plans to work on self image and self esteem through mindfulness practices and mindfulness in academic tutoring. The goals are to first and foremost share images of successful women who look like them and provide them with opportunities for small successes that build to greater successes. The second goal is to use mindfulness to aid in the building of their self esteem and by teaching them that they have everything within to learn how to be aware and to manage themselves. The final, overarching goal is to increase their academic success by catering to their social and emotional needs.

### **G.R.A.C.E for Teens After School**

G.R.A.C.E for Teens After School is a program designed specifically to serve teens in grades 6-10 who may be a part of families that struggle emotionally, economically and/or academically. Our primary focus is to provide a safe place for our participants to learn and grow through mindfulness, and a community that supports them and their families. In addition, G.R.A.C.E after school provides academic support daily, focused tutoring twice a week, math club once a week, service learning, creative arts, and weekly extra-curricular activities. YTL is committed to the success of the participants we serve and we continually solicit ideas and feedback from the families that we work with. We serve both Asheville City Schools (middle and high school) as well as Buncombe County Schools (middle and high school), providing transportation from schools to our afterschool site.

### **YTL G.R.A.C.E for Teens Advocacy and Outreach**

G.R.A.C.E for Teens Advocacy and Outreach is designed to serve as the “Trinity Connector” between parents, school staff and the student participant. The program was created to bridge the gap that often widens as students enter into middle school and gain more independence. The goal is to support this transition while strengthening connections. Advocacy and Outreach coordinators work with students, families, and the school system to ensure the social and emotional health, safety, and educational success of our community’s children with an emphasis on racial equity. Our Advocates connect children and families to resources, such as mental health services, vocational guidance, financial literacy training, college and career preparation, LGBTQIA support, mentorship, mindfulness practices, and creative programming.

### **YTL G.R.A.C.E for Girls**

G.R.A.C.E for Girls is a giving group where girls gather and practice mindfulness to find and use their voices to empower themselves and each other. It’s a safe space for girls to teach, learn and grow. We affirm ourselves and highlight our strengths. We help each other grow by holding each other accountable for our words, actions and the way we speak of ourselves. G.R.A.C.E for Girls occurs primarily in 4th and 5th grade. The middle school years can be challenging. These safe spaces build community amongst girls with emphasis on friendships over frenemies. G.R.A.C.E for Girls encourages girls to draw strength from their sisterhood vs. existing in competition and negative spaces with one another.

**For more information please visit our website, [ytltraining.org](http://ytltraining.org)**