

FY2021 Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant Report

Organization Name:	YWCA of Asheville and Western North Carolina	
Project Name:	Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Overall project updates:	The Getting Ahead program focused on case management and new cohort preparation for the 4th quarter. 80% of graduates from the previous cohort are participating in case management and 63% of graduates from the Fall cohort are actively engaged in case management services. In June, we hosted a trip to Horse Sense of the Carolinas for graduates and their families to engage in equine therapy activities and a safe, outdoor opportunity to connect with other Getting Ahead participants. The next virtual cohort is scheduled to start on July 26, 2021.
COVID-19 impacts:	Getting Ahead continues to operate virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 12th cohort participated 100% online in the class and the YWCA was able to eliminate barriers to attendance by loaning participants devices to access the virtual call. Currently case management services occur virtually. Our coordinator organized safe resource drop offs by wearing a mask with participants and keeping interactions outdoor and less than 15 minutes sustained interaction. All gatherings have been outdoors with a mask expectation. The Getting Ahead is accepting new referrals for the next cohort starting Summer 2021. The Getting Ahead coordinator spent time this quarter assisting participating in getting vaccination appointments and sharing factual information on vaccination and risk.
Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:	Our coordinator was actively engaged in case management in quarter 4. Demographically, the majority of our participants in case management are women of color. In particular, our coordinator engaged in case management with participants interested in accessing Mental Health support to find therapists that look like them through utilizing a local platform "A Therapist Like Me" and also by guiding participants toward Mental Health services at local organizations such as OurVoice, able to facilitate connections to culturally aligned therapists, and individualizing referrals with respect to religious, cultural, racial and ethnic background in particular.
Activities related to increasing operational excellence:	The Getting Ahead program found ways to increase civic engagement among our participants. Three of our participants completed the Voices for Economic Justice after a referral from our coordinator. Our program has been agile, facilitating connections to other YWCA services such as Empowerment Childcare for participants in need of childcare for interviews or study. As well, we continue to incorporate the work and expertise of two volunteers into our services -- improving our ability to provide financial literacy support as well as mental health support.

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Progress toward annual goals

Measure	Annual Goal	Actual Results (Enter Data)				Progress
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of participants completing 40 hours of workshops	35	9	9	8	10	36
% of workshop participants reporting an increased understanding of the causes of poverty	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
% of workshop participants demonstrating knowledge of how to access resources	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
% of case management participants that build their resources as evidenced by increases in income, employment status, decrease in debt and/or positive change in support systems	70%	87%	83%	89%	88%	89%

Comments:

During the fourth quarter, Getting Ahead had 10 graduates from the Spring cohort and a total of 36 graduates for the programmatic year. Currently, an average of 71% of program participants are actively engaged in case management. Based on pre- and post test data, 100% of program participants demonstrated an increased understanding of the causes of poverty and knowledge of how to access resources. One highlight of the quarter was the Getting Ahead trip to Horse Sense of the Carolinas, where participants were able to experience a safe, outdoor connection activities with other graduates as well as workshop embedded in equine therapy.

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Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 15,767	\$ 3,942	\$ 3,942	\$ 3,942	\$ 3,941	\$ -
Training						\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 500	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ -
Meetings						\$ -
Equipment/Furniture						\$ -
Printing/Marketing						\$ -
Licensing/Memberships/Dues/Subscriptions						\$ -
Client Support	\$ 8,200	\$ 2,050	\$ 2,050	\$ 2,050	\$ 2,050	\$ -
Contracts						\$ -
Professional Services						\$ -
Insurance and Bonds						\$ -
Building Maintenance						\$ -
Total	\$ 24,467	\$ 6,117	\$ 6,117	\$ 6,117	\$ 6,116	\$ -

Comments: