

# FY2024 Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant Report

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Asheville Creative Arts	
<b>Project Name:</b>	Hood Huggers Under Instruction (HHI/UI)	
<b>Reporting Quarter:</b> (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023)
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024)
	x	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024)

## Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 1500 characters). You may attach supplemental documents if needed.

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<p>From July - September 2023 HHI supported 13 individual youth during weekly gatherings for arts, service and social emotional growth. Projects included:</p> <p>Preparation and installation of artworks (paintings, sculpture, and wearable art) in an art show hosted by Upstairs Gallery in Tryon, NC throughout July; and a visit to local artist Luis Sahagan's studio to explore his painting and 3D artworks 8/16;</p> <p>Preparation for a Blue Note Junction pop-up event 9/23 including 2 sessions of land clearing in July 6-7 and September 21-23 with training in heavy machinery, equipment set-up, parking support and site clean-up following the event;</p> <p>Weekly neighborhood maintenance and community service including gardening, litter collection, and preparation and delivery of free CSA boxes to neighborhood elders. Program director secured a relationship with a general contractor who will mentor youth on electrical work, and who will supervise the wiring of a house being built in the community in Q2-3.</p> <p>Youth began a formal process to define expectations and community agreements which will become a guide for working together over the coming semester; youth also began attending monthly Reparations Committee Meetings and attended a "Doing Business with the City" meeting which explained processes for contracting with the city of Asheville.</p> <p>HHI also hosted 82 students from Evergreen Charter School (2nd and 5th grades) who did a tour of the garden which allowed them to discuss community responsibility, as well as engage with topical issues such as gentrification and red lining; and then participated in service (weeding and sculpture maintenance). HHI also hosted 41 youth on 8 separate Hood Tours during the months of July - September.</p>
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<p><b>Quarter 2</b></p>	<p>From October - November 2023 HHI supported 13 individual youth during weekly gatherings for arts, service and social emotional growth. Projects included:</p> <p>Weekly meetings in partnership with UNCA's STEAM Studio with students working with power tools such as chop, band and table saws; laser printers, autocad all in preparation for building an art kiosk in the Burton Street Community that celebrates the history of the Legacy Culture;</p> <p>Weekly neighborhood maintenance and community service including gardening, litter collection, and preparation and delivery of free CSA boxes to neighborhood elders; which included preparation, set up and clean up for the Burton Street Agriculture Fair hosted by the Burton Street Community Association in October.</p> <p>Partnered with professional landscaper who lives in the neighborhood to guide youth on removal of invasive species and preliminary prep at Blue Note Junction site. Initiated partnership with 2 additional entrepreneurs (landscaping and construction) to create paid apprenticeships for select youth in the program; as well as connecting one of the youth with the staff at Slay The Mic to learn photography and videography skills. Also partnering with Habitat for Humanity to send eligible youth to service-learning opportunities.</p> <p>In November, we welcomed a new youth director who further developed the data collection infrastructure to allow community members to post their odd jobs for the youth to work on, as well as allowing them to make donations to support the youth stipends. Continued to hone the HHI/UI model by designing a level system that incentivises youth to increase their responsibility, maturity, work ethic, and academic success. Introduced the Community Accountability Plan (CAP Playbook) to the youth.</p>
<p><b>Quarter 3</b></p>	<p>From January to March 2024 HHI supported 14 individual youth during weekly gatherings for arts, service and social emotional growth. Projects included:</p> <p>Weekly meetings at UNCA's STEAM studio working with water jet and welding for skills building in fabrication and machining as we work towards a summer breaking ground and installation of an art kiosk that will be housed at the Burton Street Community Center;</p> <p>Workforce development apprenticeships continue in partnership with local General Contractor and Landscaping company, weekly participation in Habitat for Humanity service learning opportunities (one of which is a Habitat home in the Burton Street community), new partnership with Land of Sky Regional Council for HHI/UI youth to participate in additional workforce development opportunities and home repairs/aging in place for neighborhood elders;</p> <p>Ongoing neighborhood maintenance of community gardens and CSA delivery;</p> <p>New Youth Director has continued to evolve learning outcomes and self-reporting systems for improved data metric gathering and tracking.</p>

<b>Quarter 4</b>	<p>From April 2024 - June 2024 HHI supported 16 youth during weekly gatherings for arts, service and social emotional growth. Projects included:</p> <p>A gallery exhibit of work held at UNCA's New Media Gallery focused on their vision for the future. The exhibit ran for 1 week from June 21-June 28 with opening and closing events featuring live music, and articles in the Mountain Xpress (<a href="https://mountainx.com/arts/youth-art-exhibit-highlights-work-from-emerging-creatives/">https://mountainx.com/arts/youth-art-exhibit-highlights-work-from-emerging-creatives/</a>) and AVLToday (<a href="https://avltoday.6amcity.com/newsletter/00000190-0df7-d4c8-a9b1-5df731bb0022">https://avltoday.6amcity.com/newsletter/00000190-0df7-d4c8-a9b1-5df731bb0022</a>). Students also attended meetings helmed by Asheville City Project Manager Tracy Wyman who is working with HHI and Asheville Parks and Rec to realize a student designed art and information kiosk that will be installed at the Burton Street Community Center in the coming months. Finally students worked with Scotty Utz of Raw Tools to repurpose weapons into garden implements using blacksmithing and welding techniques.</p> <p>Students worked with RiverLink to explore the natural ecology of the French Broad River, wading in to identify wildlife and also participating in cleaning litter.</p>
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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
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of youth participating in HHI-UI core cohort	20	13	12	14	16	55
# of youth who participate in a Hood Tour or other service learning from outside the Burton Street Community	500	123	91	183	144	541
# of projects related to Blue Note Junction that youth successfully complete	3	2	1	1	0	4

**Comments:**

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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	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Professional Services	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Total	\$ 24,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -

### Comments:

Reported costs are prorated from overall project budget and actual expenses incurred in Q1-Q4.