

FY2023 Buncombe County Tipping Point Grant Mid-Year Report

Organization Name:	Arms Around ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder)
Project Name:	Independent Living Skills Program

Activities Accomplished	Annual Goal	Amount Completed
Number of stackable washer/dryer units installed	1	0
Number of client families provides services through Arms Around ASD	250	317
Amount of funds raised to support the program	\$60,000	\$66,680
Percent of participants that report having had a positive/helpful experience	100%	100%

Expenses (please list <u>all</u> grant related expenses)	Amount Spent
Art supplies storage cabinet	\$ 936.25
Supplies for gardening room (plants, soil, lights)	\$ 193.47
Shelf brackets for storage	\$ 17.03
Storage cubes	\$ 106.96
Lumber for storage cabinet stand	\$ 44.11
Sensory room upgrade (bean bag chairs, hanging egg chair, star projector, bubble lamp)	\$ 589.19

TOTAL: \$ 1,887

Narrative summary of grant related activities

The permitting requirements to install a washer and dryer in our space in the Asheville Mall rendered our original proposal impractical, so in August we pivoted our focus to include improvements in our art education/art therapy program, our indoor gardening program, our sensory room and updating our space in the mall.

For the art education/therapy program, we have purchased and installed a storage cabinet for art supplies and are in the process of determining other supplies needed for the program. The program continues to be very popular and beneficial to our clients.

The indoor gardening room has gotten some new grow lights, mushroom growing kits and new herb plants. We plan to build a new workbench, get some hand gardening tools, a new circulation fan and install plant hangers in the room.

We have added a hanging egg chair, bean bag chairs, a star projector and a bubble lamp to the sensory room, making it a much more inviting and calming scene. It continues to be a destination for clients who want a place to chill out.

Under the category of updating our mall space, we have installed a storage cube cabinet in the big room to better organize the fitness equipment. 2023 plans include improving the flooring in the kitchen area, adding area rugs as needed, and purchasing sheets and other linens for therapies such as massage.