

FY2023 Buncombe County Tipping Point Grant Mid-Year Report

Organization Name:	Colaborativa La Milpa
Project Name:	Raices Youth

Activities Accomplished	Annual Goal	Amount Completed
Number of parent/community leaders hired	2	2
Number of youth served	25	37
Expenses (please list <u>all</u> grant related expenses)		Amount Spent
2 New Parent leaders/community artists		\$ 2,500.00
TOTAL:		\$ 2,500

Narrative summary of grant related activities

With two parent/community leaders to coordinate the youth afterschool program specifically, the scope and possibilities have increased. This fall, we reorganized our youth program to give our participants a choice of music or dance or both (we will add visual arts in the winter and spring) by meeting two afternoons each week. We also added a more intensive youth dance component to our roster, El Diplomado. This is for youth ages 14-20 who like to dance and perform traditional folklorico and will also receive a certificate at the end of the program, which enables them to become youth assistant instructors for Raíces. We have engaged 37 Latinx youth in these various offerings. The music program was robust, with guest visits from Indigenous drummers, by UNCA Professor Juan Martinez, who worked with participants on poetry and connection to nature, and guest student musicians from UNCA. In addition, the NC Abortem, as part of their outreach program, provided a Latinx musician and song writer to work with the youth for 10 weeks. Our participants began learning how to play guitar and drums and also engaged with contemporary Latinx music. With the instructor provided by the aboretum, they explored the components of song writing and wrote one song together. They performed this at UNCA. The afterschool dance program was led by two youth assistant instructors who have been involved with Raíces dance for years. This will culminate in a performance at our annual December Posada. In addition, another, Enhancing a sense of community, strengthening social networks, opportunities to learn and apply leadership skills, building confidence and a sense of strong cultural identity were present for all our participants, guests, and instructors.