

FY2023 Buncombe County Tipping Point Grant Report

Organization Name:	Read to Succeed
Project Name:	Literacy Where We Live

Activities Accomplished	Annual Goal	Amount
Number of youth in Burton Street Community engaged in repairing and building little free community libraries	5	5
Number of families attending literacy-driven community event	25	125
Number of culturally-responsive books with Black characters shared via little free community libraries	100	200

Expenses (please list <u>all</u> grant related expenses)	Amount Spent
Contract carpenter educator to support library repair project	\$240.00
Supplies for Little Free Library repairs	\$34.28
R2S community liaison supporting project (7 total hours @ \$25/hour)	\$175.00
Meals for two Hood Huggers (Under Instruction) programming planning meetings with youth	\$312.82
Additional supplies and lumber for Little Free Library construction	\$191.53
Book Depot order - Black children's books	\$706.80
Books from Noir Collective for Little Free Library & Ag Fest	\$634.98
Little Free Library Registration	\$44.94
Personnel - R2S staff coverage at two community events and youth meetings, grant/program management, purchasing supplies	\$1,185.00
Chromebooks for Hood Huggers (Under Instruction) program	\$932.99
Student rewards/incentives for Hood Huggers youth	\$329.70
Ice cream for community event	\$214.00
TOTAL:	\$ 5,002

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Youth and leadership from Hood Huggers International and staff and community liaisons from Read 2 Succeed (R2S) continued the Little Free Library project through the spring, summer, and fall of 2023.

Starting in the spring, R2S participated in the Peace Gardens Spring Fling, sharing free Black children's books, family reading resources (comprehension guide, free reading apps guide), and a spring-themed literacy game with more than 100 children and adults attending. R2S staff also met with youth twice, providing dinner, engaging in discussion around children's book choices for the repaired library, and reviewing timelines for when and how it would be finished.

R2S purchased the final supplies required to finish off the Little Free Library, and Declan King and Divine Ballard with Hood Huggers worked with youth to finalize its construction atop the rock foundation for a water fountain that sits outside the Burton Street Community Center in front of the Jenny Pickens mural illustrating the historically Black Buron Street School.

We additionally stocked the bookshelf with Black children's and YA books purchased from Noir Collective, a Black-owned boutique and bookstore on Eagle St. downtown, a section of the historically Black neighborhood known as "The Block."

The Little Free Library had its official unveiling in late May 2023 and was added to the National Little Free Library registry. Any person searching for Little Free Libraries in Asheville will now see it listed here with charter #174623 and pictures: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/map/>

In addition to completing the library and stocking it with books, R2S and Hood Huggers also partnered for their annual Agricultural Fest. R2S provided ice cream from The Hop, free Black children's books, reading resources, and a fun pumpkin & book ring toss game for families to enjoy. Hood Huggers had additional community and health resources, arts & crafts with Jenny Pickens, food, and performers at the event.

R2S finished off the Tipping Point grant budget by purchasing four Chromebooks for Hood Huggers (Under Instruction) to use with youth who perform research projects as part of their participation in the program. Six \$50 Visa gift cards were also shared with Hood Huggers for DeWayne Barton and youth leaders to use as incentives and rewards during the school year.