FY2024 Buncombe County Tipping Point Grant Report

Organization Name:	River Front Development Group
Project Name:	Reckoning with Black Cultural Heritage

Activities Accomplished	Annual Goal	Amount Completed
# of neighborhood organizations assisted in implementing the process	6	
# of organizations partnered with	4	
# of calendars produced	300	

Expenses (please list <u>all</u> grant related expenses)	Amount Spent

TOTAL: \$

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Conducted Design charrette with Stephens-Lee Alumni and Stephens-Lee Alumni Association summer 2019 and 2023. This provided necessary Ccommunity-led design for the intention for exhibits, potential exhibit design, and the layout of the museum, trail and their contents. Sessions were led by the Asheville Chapter of the American Institute of Architecture (AIA). Documentation by the Asheville Chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Artists and Designers (AIGA).

Secured \$500,000 grant from Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority for the development and fabrication of the Asheville Black Cultural Heritage Trail and \$100,000 for the Stephens-Lee Cultural Arts Museum.

Secured a interactive display KIOSK for community presentations of historical African American individuals and families whose accomplishments, resilience and entrepreneurism has not been celebrated and remains unknown.

Secured collections of stories, histories and historical artifacts.

Worked out a detailed Construction plan with WeaverCooke Construction for upfits at the Stephens-Lee Recreation Center to house the Stephens-Lee Museum. Contact has been maintained with this company's assigned project manager.

RFDG joined the WNC Museums in Partnership, for assistance developing and preserving exhibits.

Worked with Mountain Gateway Museum on best practices for digital museums.

Conducted meetings with City of Asheville staff to draft Memorandum of Understanding 2019-2023 after receiving City Council Memorandum of support of the Trail and Museum. City staff has hindered progress on this process by consistently placing responsibility and accountability with personnel who have, one by one, quit working for the city, or retired. A particular issue to be resolved is the city's claim to ownership of all material brought into the Recreation Center and control over public access to the Museum.