

FY2023 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	Irene Wortham Center	
Project Name:	Early Learning Center Program Enrichment	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2022 - September 30, 2022)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2023 - March 31, 2023)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

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

Quarter 1	<p>With the support of the behavior specialist, we have converted a classroom that is closed due to staffing into a sensory motor room. The use of this room includes a space for sensory breaks, non-napping room for children whose behaviors are disruptive during quiet time. Behavior specialist has introduced and implementing sensory integration materials inside the classroom that are used to address child's individual/specific needs while educating teachers on proper use of materials. Constructing and designed individual tools to help children with developmental delays. These include constructing individualized picture schedules, choice boards, work systems, etc. for decreased negative behaviors and smoother transitions within the classroom. Worked with children on social-emotional learning through the use of research based social-emotional curriculums, books, games and other miscellaneous materials for increased emotional awareness and self-regulation skills. Provide 1:1 sensory break for children in need using specific sensory-rich materials such as thera putty, swings, weighted balls, sensory sand, etc. and Worked as a liaison between parents, teachers, and staff for increased carry-over between school. We have seen a decrease in some behaviors within the start of the program year across classrooms where there is support from the behavior specialist.</p>
Quarter 2	<p>Behavior support this quarter included all listed above along with increasing reading materials for families to support behavioral interventions and decrease meltdowns in the home using "Love and Logic" or triple P methodology and trained parents on techniques. Creating an environment where parents, teachers and staff work together to increase carry-over between school and home. We have helped families with referrals to specific mental health agencies in the community. Help parents who are experiencing potentially traumatic insecure housing. The behavioral support has also been expanded to the home, where families have allowed support within the home specific to behavioral needs.</p>

Quarter 3	<p>Increase family willingness to accept additional behavioral supports with 2 outside agencies, completing referrals, and coordinating center based treatment: Family Preservation Services and First Resource Center. A 3-person intensive in-home team supports one child at school and home. Six students have begun 1:1 play-based therapy at IWC with a clinician with First Resource center. Individual trainings for families on implementation of Love & Logic principles, behavioral and calming techniques for managing home behavior. Supporting cohesion of couples' approaches to behavior management in home.</p> <p>Constructing and training parents on use of visuals for AM and PM routines. Parent meetings to address transition strategies for drop offs/ pick-ups. Distribution of NCPMI "Positive Solutions" handouts to support improved strategies for specific challenges. Training classroom teachers on correct use of physician-ordered weighted vest for specific child. Creating obstacle courses for gross motor and proprioceptive input during inclement weather.</p>
Quarter 4	<p>9 out of 16 children showed behavior improvement support. Implemented Zones of Regulation concepts to be added into circle time in preschool classroom as we prepare for new program year. Worked with parents on behavioral strategies in home. Created and implantation of "Good Friend" game and social story for students with applicable challenges. Set up new "behavior log" per parent request to close loop with teachers on challenging behaviors. Worked with a family to help child with behaviors associated to a new sibling being born. Observations of new children entering the program who will require behavioral supports, visual aids and adaptations within the classroom. New furniture purchased, new furniture is light colored wood which also helps lesson visual over stimulation which can result in increase of behaviors. Old furniture had bright colors.</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 toward Annual Goal
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Percent of children who require decreased support after working with behavioral specialist	60%	0%	4%	46%	70%	70%
Percent of children served who display increased self-regulation skills as evidenced by behavior logs kept by classroom teachers	85%	2%	4%	46%	70%	70%
Percent of students receiving behavioral specialist services who have regular team meetings including administration, teachers, and parents to discuss and evaluate children's progress	100%	10%	12%	36%	23%	81%
# of new slots, by student age						0
- Student age less than 1 yr		0	1	2	0	3
- Student age greater than 1 & less than 2		0	1	-1	0	0
- Student age greater than 2 & less than 3		0	1	2	0	3
- Student age greater than 3 & less than 4		0	1	3	0	4
- Student age greater than 4 yrs		0	5	3	0	8

# of total slots maintained, by student age						0
- Student age less than 1 yr		4	3	5	6	6
- Student age greater than 1 & less than 2		12	11	10	12	12
- Student age greater than 2 & less than 3		15	13	15	14	14
- Student age greater than 3 & less than 4		13	12	13	17	17
- Student age greater than 4 yrs		15	22	25	20	20
# of Child Care Subsidy slots		32	32	32	37	37
# of NC Pre-K slots		9	12	13	13	13
# of unique students served		21	19	19	20	20
Enrollment percentage		54%	61%	68%	68%	68%
# of children on wait list, by student age						0
- Student age less than 1 yr		49	45	58	72	72
- Student age greater than 1 & less than 2		85	93	95	82	82
- Student age greater than 2 & less than 3		88	74	87	102	102
- Student age greater than 3 & less than 4		85	88	78	90	90
- Student age greater than 4 yrs		80	57	91	98	98
Student attendance rate		69%	71%	80%	86%	86%
Student achievement on school readiness assessment (meet or exceed standards)		n/a	87%	78%	81%	87%
Teacher retention		95%	89%	95%	95%	95%
Teacher attendance		98%	98%	96%	98%	98%

Comments:

Out of 68 children enrolled we were utilizing our behavioral support 19 children have utilized supports in the classroom. Which gives us 36% of enrolled children who need added supports. We have 7 children who have improved based on parent and/or teacher report. We have hired multiple staff. Our waitlist shows a high need for children with behavior needs and referrals from other centers and behavioral support agencies is overwhelming. We also are close to being fully staffed, we reopened our last classroom that had been closed for almost 3yrs.

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Student demographics (if applicable)

	Actual Results (Enter Data)				Student Count
	Please only include new data for the specific quarter				
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Race/Ethnic Categories					
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	1	0	0	0
Asian	1	0	1	1	1
Black or African American	12	0	0	10	10
Hispanic or Latino	7	0	2	8	8
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
White	37	0	2	40	40
Multi-race	2	1	2	13	13
Total	59	2	7	72	72

Comments:

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Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting Budget	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount Remaining
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 77,938	\$ 12,436	\$ 19,900	\$ 23,553	\$ 21,714	\$ 333
Travel/Training						\$ -
Technology						\$ -
Curriculum/Assessments	\$ 1,800			\$ 1,800		\$ -
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 3,000		\$ 338	\$ 357	\$ 2,351	\$ (46)
Building Maintenance/Repair						\$ -
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities						\$ -
Furniture	\$ 40,105	\$ 11,720	\$ 6,860	\$ 11,060	\$ 10,500	\$ (36)
Playground/Outdoor space	\$ 2,000			\$ 190	\$ 2,060	\$ (250)
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage						\$ -
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,						\$ -
Emergency scholarship assistance for families facing hardship	\$ 5,000	\$ 411	\$ 2,001	\$ 2,150	\$ 440	\$ (2)
Total	\$ 129,842	\$ 24,568	\$ 29,099	\$ 39,110	\$ 37,065	\$ (0)

Comments:

We appreciate the funding from Buncombe County. It has helped increase quality of care at the Irene Wortham Early Learning Center with behavioral supports for children. The furniture has helped make the environment a second teacher, providing sensory calming shelving replacing bright colored shelving helping create a neutral tone environment.