FY2024 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	FIRSTwn	FIRSTwnc					
Project Name:	SUNSHIN	SUNSHINE Project and Mental Heatlh Supports in ECE Centers					
	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023)						
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)					
	Х	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024)					
		Quarter 4 (April 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024)					

Narrative summary of grant related activities

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

Quarter 1	We are off to a busy start and continue to work towards our measures and goals. Processes have been created to work with classrooms and directors on providing guidance with enhancing policies and becoming more culturally and ability responsive. Reframing language, co regulation strategies, and small group coaching sessions have been beneficial in supporting our students, families, and teaching staff. A few obstacles that we have encountered is teacher turnover and finding time to be able to communicate with the staff and families. The programs are working with us on this, but it is often difficult to find coverage for everyone to collaboratively meet and share.
Quarter 2	The second quarter has demonstrated continued support and growth for students, families, and teachers. We have received positive feedback from families and programs about our services and activities. The programs find that having therapists come into the school environment has been beneficial, not only for the students, but also the educators. The families greatly appreciate that their children can receive in school therapy, rather than having to take time off of work to bring them to appointments. This is a huge win especially when we talk about accessibility and reducing barriers. In addition, the families have felt more comfortable reaching out for guidance within their home environments. The resources and materials that we have been able to provide with this funding have been greatly appreciated and useful for all. The educators have been recognizing the importance of reflecting on their whole classroom environment and creating welcoming classrooms where everyone is visually represented and valued.

Quarter 3	Recent Achievements:								
	- Hired a bilingual consultant who was previously a SUNSHINE Project intern 3 years ago and contracted with local								
	service providers.								
	 Exceeded goals for the quarter, with plans to increase outcomes next year. Focused on mental health supports and inclusivity in early childhood development, including the creation of an 								
	extensive inclusivity book list.								
	- Created and shared an inclusive book list with educators and service providers.								
	- Caregiver community of practice initiated for the 4th quarter.								
	- Early childhood students using their voices more with guidance to get their needs met.								
	Community Engagement:								
	- Increased outreach with fiscal support from the County.								
	- Hosted interns from UNCA and WCU, allowing them to contribute and develop professional skills. Internship Programs:								
	- Psychology/Education interns from UNCA shared lived experiences, developed skills, and aided in material creation - Clinical interns from WCU continue to provide mental health support in early childhood centers.								
	- Celebrated the success of a clinical intern who received their license.								
	Gratitude:								
	Thankful for continued funding support enabling these initiatives.								
Quarter 4									
Quarter 4									

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Progress toward annual goals

		Please on				
Measure	Annual Goal	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	toward
# of staff members provided with coaching/ consulting	30	28	11	14		53
% improvement in the areas of need as demonstrated by the data from SEAM	80%		90%			90%
# of program directors/administrators assisted in enhancing their policies	5	2	4	3		9
Satisfaction rating based on overall responsiveness through anonymous satisfaction	90%		96%			96%
# of classrooms assisted in becoming more culturally and ability responsive	10	3	4	4		11
# of children and families supported with resources, trainings and tool kits	30	18	15	13		46

Comments:

We will report % improvement in the areas of need as demonstrated by the data from SEAM in the second and fourth quarters. In addition, satisfaction ratings based on overall responsiveness through anonymous satisfaction surveys will be reported in the second and fourth quarters. This project is unable to provide accurate data for these two measures until we have more time to provide support and document progress. *For the second quarter, we are happy to report that the students improved in 9 out of the 10 benchmark areas.*

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Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

	Total Spending (Enter Data)										
Spending Category		Budget		Quarter 1		Quarter 2		Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Remainin	
Personnel	\$	84,110	\$	21,196.00	\$	19,322	\$	16,055		\$	27,537
Travel/Training	\$	1,950	\$	89.00	\$	1,395	\$	233		\$	233
Technology										\$	-
Curriculum/Assessments	\$	1,643	\$	57.00	\$	156	\$	930		\$	500
Licensing/Dues										\$	-
Nutrition										\$	-
Transportation										\$	-
Supplies/Materials	\$	3,100	\$	337.00	\$	35	\$	1,725		\$	1,003
Building Maintenance/Repair										\$	-
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities	\$	3,909	\$	801.00	\$	802	\$	1,106		\$	1,200
Furniture										\$	-
Playground/Outdoor space										\$	-
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$	1,000	\$	97.00			\$	596		\$	307
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,	\$	1,000	\$	461.00	\$	362				\$	177
Other-stipends, clinicans and contracted trainers	\$	24,000	\$	3,750.00	\$	4,204	\$	9,745		\$	6,301
Total	\$	120,712	\$	26,788.00	\$	26,275	\$	30,390		\$	37,259

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