

MINUTES

Attendees: Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Martin Moore, Al Whitesides, Rich Johnson, Leslie Anderson, Brandy Bowman, Wendy Wieber, Linda McDaniel, Philip Belcher, Susan Mims, Kit Kramer, Mistie Reising-Cogbill (virtual), Carol Steen (virtual), Marsha Davis (virtual)

Absent: Mark Taft

Staff in attendance: Angelyn Johnson, Sara Joss, Michael Frue, Matthew Baker

Welcome

Minutes

- Approval of minutes from March 7, 2022
 - Motion to approve by Al Whitesides. Seconded by Martin Moore The minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

- Reference Materials
 - Conflict of interest disclosures
 - Applicants' responses to follow-up questions
 - List of applications with information on multi-year funding requests and slots
- Prioritizing workforce development discussion
 - Reflected in FY24 proposals as a need
 - Compensation within the lens of workforce development should be highly considered
 - Look at several factors contributing to lack of retention/attrition in early childhood workforce
 - Staff will support the creation of ad hoc group to be revisited in a future meeting after the grant recommendations are finalized

New Business

- Grant review/funding allocation
 - The committee discussed the applications and that more groups requested larger amounts of funding this year
 - Committee agreed that the composite score is unnecessary this year since it doesn't change the scenarios.
 - In scenario #1 (tiered awards by percentage), the cutoff reflects any projects with a total score percentage under 75%. In scenario #2, projects with a score of 82% or higher would receive 100% of request.
 - The committee decided to use scenario #2 as the starting point for the allocation process
 - The committee will use "percent recommended" as a secondary criteria for scenarios if needed once a first pass has been completed

Meeting materials are posted online at www.BuncombeCounty.org/Grants

- The committee feels it is important to focus on equity through impact of projects versus number of projects funded
- The committee would like to look deeper into some of the particular components of proposals such as increased slots, equity, workforce development, etc. as another secondary criteria for consideration.
- Stabilization seems to be key given the current landscape of early childhood education, which makes multi-year funding particularly important for trusted organizations.
- Next Steps:
 - Staff will add additional information to the spreadsheet for the next meeting: new and existing slots, vacant slots due to staffing, money returned over the last 3 years, multi-year funding amounts requested
 - Beginning funding scenarios:
 - The committee selected Scenario 2 as the starting point for the funding allocation process. Committee members do not want to have proposals funded below 80% of their initial request .
 - 3 organizations under this scenario would receive multiple grants (Community Action Opportunities - 3, Buncombe Partnership for Children - 2, YWCA - 2)
- Timeline reminder:
 - 4/18 at **12:30 pm** – Committee meeting
 - 4/25 at **12:30 pm** – Committee meeting (if needed)
 - 4/28 – Grant recommendations due to County Budget Office

Announcements

Public Comment

Next Meeting

Next meeting is April 18, 2023, **12:30-2:30 pm**, 200 College St, Ground Floor Conference Room
Lunch will be provided.