

FY2023 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

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|--|---|
| Organization Name: | Buncombe Partnerhsip for Children |
| Project Name: | Child Care Resources: Professional and Systems Development Project |
| 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.

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| Quarter 1 | <p>CCR spent a significant amount of time during the beginning of the first quarter working with a newly opened center that was preparing to go through rating scales in order to come off a temporary license. We worked closely with the teachers - many new to the field - on best practices in addition to ERS basics. We also followed up with several individuals interested in opening homes or centers, and offered support and resources to them. Several well-attended Director events took place, as an opportunity to network among directors and to provide resources and collaborative opportunities with directors who are new in their roles and/or the community. We began in Quarter 1 to offer in-person training at our office as well as in individual centers, with a rate of attendance that is slowly beginning to rebound after Covid. We are investigating ways in which we can reach more educators for professional development opportunities, and to better support our workforce, which is still struggling to recover from the loss of personnel during the pandemic. We spent a significant amount of time in Quarter 1 reaching out to directors and building relationships with teachers in order to determine current needs and how best we can meet them.</p> |
| Quarter 2 | <p>We are beginning another Director Community of Practice in February with a focus on mentorship and peer facilitation, which will provide leadership-specific training to directors. We also hosted two information sessions with the DCDEE this quarter, to provide directors with updates and a chance to connect with new DCDEE licensing consultants. These provided us an opportunity to check in with directors and follow up individually about concerns or questions. In December, the Child Care Resources team visited programs throughout the county to touch base and deliver gestures of appreciation (program information, baked goods and a card) for their hard work and to serve as a reminder of the services we offer. These visits resulted in several new training and technical assistance requests. Reconnect for Resilience and Child Care Business Basics will be offered in the second part of the fiscal year.</p> |

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| Quarter 3 | <p>Quarter 3 was largely focused on Environmental Rating Scales TA, as more programs have been reaching out in preparation for upcoming assessments. We have done a large number of pre-assessments and met with teachers and directors, as well as offered trainings for individual centers. Due to the large number of teachers who are new to the field, many directors are concerned that their centers are not as prepared as they would be in more normal years. We have also been working to move the Child Care Business Basics course online, to make it more accessible to a wider population. This has involved collaboration with Southwestern Child Development and Self Help Credit Union to ensure that the online version accurately reflects the original course. We have also seen continued interest in both TA and Professional Development around children with challenging behaviors and developmental needs, and our Early Childhood Specialists have been engaged in ongoing mentoring processes with teachers and directors. Part of this process has been focused on giving mentor teachers and directors the tools they need to better support newer teachers and teaching teams in creating effective strategies for children who are struggling with classroom expectations. The Family Child Care Home Community of Practice has continued to meet biweekly, and is well-attended by most of the providers in Buncombe County. Due to a lack of time, sufficient staffing, and flexibility for directors over the last few months, we postponed the Director Community of Practice. In the last month or so, however, there has been a renewed interest and stability within programs, and our Director Community of Practice is set to resume in May with directors taking turns with facilitation.</p> |
| Quarter 4 | <p>The fourth quarter brought continued interest in both Technical Assistance and Professional Development requests to better support a teachers in working with children who use challenging behaviors, setting up classroom environments for child success, and supporting brand new teachers in a time of unprecedented teacher turnover. The CCR Early Childhood Specialists have been engaged in ongoing coaching and mentoring processes with teachers and directors. This process is often focused on giving program administrators the tools they need to better support newer teachers and teaching teams in creating effective strategies for children who are struggling with classroom expectations. CCR staff connect programs to a variety resources, offer on the spot coaching and troubleshooting, offer relevant training (developmentally appropriate practices, social emotional supports, as well as trainings like Reconnect for Resilience), as well as conducting observation-based classroom assessments. The Family Child Care Home Community of Practice has continued to meet biweekly, and the monthly Director Community of Practice began again in May. CCR staff have been working to move the Child Care Business Basics course online, to make it more accessible to a wider population. This has involved collaboration with Southwestern Child Development and Self Help Credit Union to ensure that the online version accurately reflects the original course as well as updates to the Moodle Online Learning platform. A new staff member joined the team in June.</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 | |
| Number of individuals receiving training or coaching in the Reconnect for Resilience curriculum | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| Number of individuals receiving training in special topics | 100 | 58 | 30 | 34 | 16 | 138 |
| Number of individuals receiving Start-up Technical Assistance | 10 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 13 |
| Number of program directors receiving leadership specific training and/or coaching | 15 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 15 |
| Number of individuals who completed online Child Care Business Basics | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Number of Child Care Business Basics Training modules created for on-demand training | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |

Comments:

Reconnect for Resilience was planned for June, but was not held in person as planned due to staffing issues among interested programs (and therefor lack of ability to send staff for a 14 hour training). However, throughout the year, in partnership with Raising Resilience WNC, CCR staff taught the Reconnect Curriculum to at least 40 participants from the Buncombe County early education field. Additionally, teachers and directors who have taken Reconnect in the past received follow up implementation consultation. Child Care Business Basics online modules went live in June, delayed due to needed updates to the BPFC online learning platform.

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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 | \$ 107,769 | \$ 31,766 | \$ 28,379 | \$ 32,380 | \$ 33,395 | \$ (18,151) |
| Travel/Training | \$ 2,500 | \$ 1,546 | \$ 1,333 | \$ 395 | \$ 419 | \$ (1,192) |
| Technology | \$ 2,000 | | | | | \$ 2,000 |
| Curriculum/Assessments | | | | | | \$ - |
| Licensing/Dues | | | | | | \$ - |
| Nutrition | | | | | | \$ - |
| Transportation | | | | | | \$ - |
| Supplies/Materials | \$ 10,150 | \$ 350 | \$ 2,298 | \$ 1,243 | \$ 2,580 | \$ 3,680 |
| Building Maintenance/Repair | \$ 2,389 | \$ 488 | \$ 256 | \$ 278 | \$ 260 | \$ 1,107 |
| Rent/Occupancy/Utilities | \$ 24,093 | \$ 3,394 | \$ 3,763 | \$ 3,438 | \$ 3,500 | \$ 9,998 |
| Furniture | | | | | | \$ - |
| Playground/Outdoor space | | | | | | \$ - |
| Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage | \$ 3,349 | \$ 317 | \$ - | | | \$ 3,032 |
| Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance, Dues and Subscriptions etc.) | | | | \$ 50 | \$ 69 | \$ (119) |
| Other (please list) | \$ 750 | | | | \$ 1,104 | \$ (354) |
| Total | \$ 153,000 | \$ 37,861 | \$ 36,028 | \$ 37,783 | \$ 41,327 | \$ 0 |

Comments: