

FY2023 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	YWCA	
Project Name:	Early Learning Program Quality Enhancement	
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>YWCA hired a new director for the Early Learning Program. This director has a background in mental health, teacher support and professional development and will help grow our childcare in supporting a robust early childhood educator pipeline. We also hope to extend greater trauma-informed support to families and children in our care under his leadership. YWCA ELP department partners with the following organizations to ensure we are remaining up to date on best practices and the newest research based policies that guide early childhood education and implementation. A sample of partners include: Western NC Early Childhood Coalition, Asheville Buncombe Preschool Planning Collaborative, NC Pre-K, Read 2 Succeed, SunShine Project; Child Developmental Services Agency; Buncombe County Special Services Department and many others to make sure our students are starting Kindergarten with a solid foundation for all future learning. We continue to use Creative Curriculum, Teaching Strategies Gold and Brigance to ensure that our students are meeting developmental milestones. For those children who might need additional supports, we connect the families with the appropriate community resources. We currently have 11 students receiving onsite support with us during the day. These services include IEP support; speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and behavior supports.</p>
Quarter 2	<p>These past 3 months have been filled with great family-friendly activities here at the YWCA. In October we celebrated Halloween with a Hallway Haunt. Classrooms took turns parading through our hallways to an audience of family and staff members. We celebrated Thanksgiving with a Family Dinner hosted by our Nutrition Team. We served a full meal and shared our appreciation for one another with smiling faces and full bellies. And most recently we celebrated the Winter Holiday season with a Winter Family Fun Night where families were treated to fun and games, music, snacks and face painting. January 3rd will mark the beginning of a new schedule for the ELP program. Hours of operation will be moved to 8am-4:30pm. Teachers will be scheduled into two groups: openers from 7:30am-4:30pm and closers from 8am-5pm. This gives the team a thirty minute opportunity without children at the beginning and end of the day to prep/clean/restock or generally plan for their time in the classroom. It is the Director's intention to structure this time to better support our programming goals as a group. This includes the use of assessments, lesson plans, structured activities and curriculum in addressing academic and developmental milestones for the different age groups. In addition to this am/pm planning time, our schedule has also been updated to include one half-day a month for trainings and staff meetings.</p>

Quarter 3	<p>Q3 brings with it the arrival of our new Program Coordinator Lisa McKnight. We are very thankful for a warm handoff and smooth transition of responsibilities and operations. We held a surprise retirement party for Charlene and we are very appreciative of the work she has done here. Lisa brings with her a host of skills in the industry and connections within the community. She is passionate about curriculum and instruction and will be working closely with our Specialists in strengthening our existing practices. She has already been instrumental in formalizing a teacher work schedule. Top priority focus area for Director and Coordinators moving forward will be automation. Pending additional staffing, Specialists will now spend dedicated time in each classroom (minimum 2 hours per week) in order to provide increased direct support/training to teachers and additional planning and preparation time. Activities this quarter included a Mardi Gras Parade and St. Patrick's Day treat for our students. Community partnerships continue to thrive. Director recently attended a United 4 Youth meeting. Director and Enrollment Coordinator attended a screening of a documentary presented by Read 2 Succeed. Director recently established contact with Christine Avery Learning Center in hopes of establishing a relationship and/or partnership. Relationship with Verner Center for Early Learning continues to thrive and Director attended an event hosted by CoThinkk with their administrative team.</p>
Quarter 4	<p>The focus of Q4 has been the automation of processes regularly used in ELP. This includes the repetitive day-to-day processes related to enrollment, attendance, staffing etc. Additionally, ELP leadership has made a concerted effort to maximize the use of ProCare in our daily operations in hopes of creating a one-stop-shop for teachers as well as families. For example, after careful consideration, the decision was made to move away from Teaching Strategies Gold as our curriculum program and have since populated ProCare with multiple lesson plans and lesson modules for teachers. In this way teachers can link lesson plans within ProCare to the message center and attach photographs all in one place. We are working to update our staffing in ProCare as well. This includes taking attendance within the app rather than in person and developing staffing rotations based on the ratios seen there. This practice of maximizing ProCare will eventually include billing, eliminating the need for parents to work out of multiple programs. We celebrated Teacher Appreciation week with a daily treat provided by our wonderful parents and students enjoyed a trip to the Asheville Museum of Science.</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
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
% of participants with increased content knowledge regarding standards of care and practices that positively impact child development	80%	95%	95%	95%	95	95%
% of professionals that persist or reach an education milestone	75%	15%	14%	15%	15%	59%
% of children seeing growth in their skill-based assessments between Fall and Spring	75%	85%	85%	n/a	n/a	85%
% of children with growth in soft skills as measured by SEL assessments	75%	25%	75%	n/a	n/a	75%
# of total slots maintained, by student age	115	81		7	-11	77
- Student age less than 1 yr		5	3			8
- Student age greater than 1 & less than 2		12	1	-3	-2	8
- Student age greater than 2 & less than 3		26	-1	-8		17
- Student age greater than 3 & less than 4		15	3	3	-1	20
- Student age greater than 4 yrs		23	-1	-4	6	24
# of Child Care Subsidy slots	50	29	2	-4	2	29
# of NC Pre-K slots	18	15	2		0	17

# of unique students served	115	81		7	-11	77
Enrollment percentage	85%	70%	70%	78%	86%	86%
# of children on wait list, by student age		746	37	100	29	912
- Student age less than 1 yr		135	-15	-5	-11	104
- Student age greater than 1 & less than 2		220	-7	10	6	229
- Student age greater than 2 & less than 3		191	18	18	12	239
- Student age greater than 3 & less than 4		123	36	40	18	217
- Student age greater than 4 yrs		77	5	37	4	123
Student attendance rate	85%	N/A	N/A	N/A	n/a	0%
Student achievement on school readiness assessment (meet or exceed standards)	90%	N/A	N/A	N/A	n/a	0%
Teacher retention	90%	80%	95%	94%		95%
Teacher attendance	85%	53%	92.60%	93%		93%

Comments:

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Student demographics (if applicable)

	Actual Results (Enter Data) Please only include new data for the specific quarter				Student Count
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Race/Ethnic Categories					
American Indian or Alaska Native					0
Asian	4	4	1	4	13
Black or African American	17	1	1	16	35
Hispanic or Latino	9	0	0	5	14
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
White	50		5	50	105
Multi-race	1		0	1	2
Total	81	5	7	76	169

Comments:

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	X	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023)	

Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 150,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	\$ -
Travel/Training						\$ -
Technology						\$ -
Curriculum/Assessments						\$ -
Licensing/Dues						\$ -
Nutrition						\$ -
Transportation						\$ -
Supplies/Materials						\$ -
Building Maintenance/Repair						\$ -
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities						\$ -
Furniture						\$ -
Playground/Outdoor space						\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage						\$ -
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,						\$ -
Other (please list)						\$ -
Total	\$ 150,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	\$ -

Comments: