

**DRAFT for Review by Strategic Partnership Grant Committee, 8/6/20**



# STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Update to Board of Commissioners

August 18, 2020



## BACKGROUND

- Funds a broad mix of nonprofit, community-based programs working toward outcomes in alignment with Commissioner goals
- Annual grants of county general funds, adopted as part of operating budget
- Previously reviewed/decided by Commissioners directly



## COMMITTEE

- Strategic Partnership Grants Committee formed in November 2019
- Purpose is to make Strategic Partnership Grant investment recommendations to the Board of Commissioners
- 21 people applied to serve on the committee
- Commissioners interviewed all applicants & appointed 9 members in January 2020



## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3
Davidson Jones	Annie Carpenter	Kate Burger <i>Vice Chair</i>
Paul Tax	Douglas Clarke <i>Chair</i>	Chuck Rosenblum
Liz Ward	Kevin McAbee <i>Secretary</i>	Rebecca Strimer

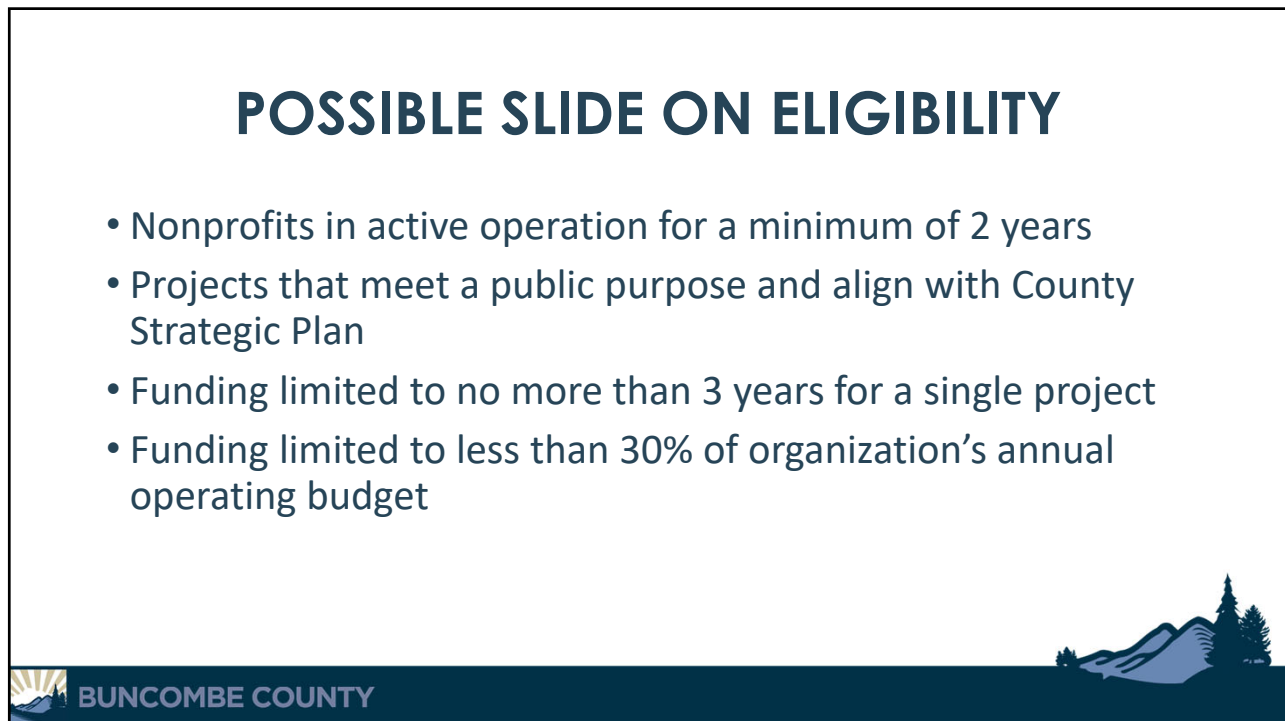
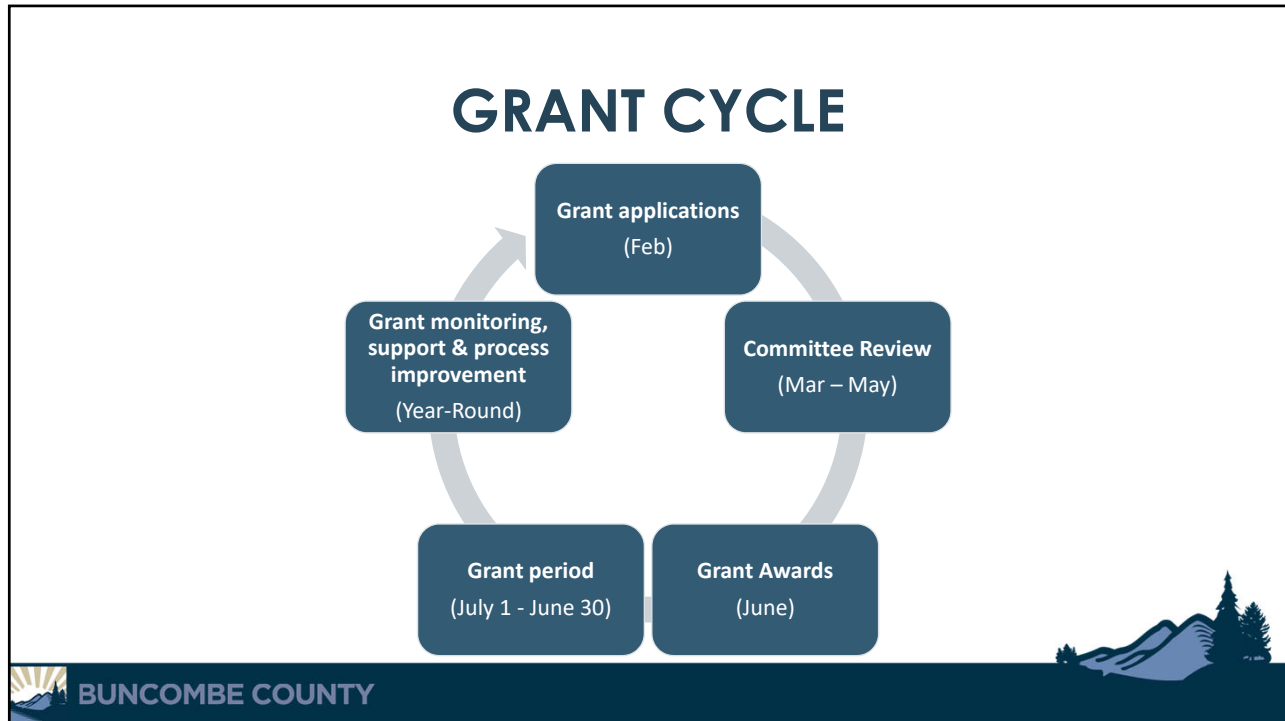




## COMMITTEE FOCUS


- Utilize a standardized, points-based scoring system to review proposals
- Recommend a portfolio of grants for approval by the board
- Meet throughout the year to monitor grants and review progress
- Make recommendations for enhancing goal achievement
- Provide feedback to Commissioners regarding the overall grant application process





## FY2021 GRANT AWARDS

<b>\$2,676,860</b> Total requested	<b>\$889,305</b> Total granted	<b>34</b> Projects funded	<b>32</b> Agencies funded	<b>47%</b> New projects
--	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------------



## GRANTS BY COUNTY FOCUS AREA

<p><b>Educated &amp; Capable Community</b></p> <p><i>A county where all residents thrive and demonstrate resilience throughout their lives.</i></p>	<p><b>Environmental &amp; Energy Stewardship</b></p> <p><i>High quality air, water, farmland and renewable energy for future generations.</i></p>	<p><b>Resident Well-Being</b></p> <p><i>Our residents are safe, healthy, and engaged in their community.</i></p>	<p><b>Vibrant Economy</b></p> <p><i>A robust and sustainable regional economy that builds on our homegrown industries and talent and provides economic mobility for residents.</i></p>
<p>Education: 12 projects \$307,617 35% of funds</p>	<p>Environment: 3 projects \$67,700 8% of funds</p>	<p>Well-Being: 13 projects \$367,988 41% of funds</p>	<p>Economy: 6 projects \$146,000 16% of funds</p>

## GRANTEES

- ABCCM
- Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)
- Asheville Area Arts Council
- Asheville GreenWorks
- Asheville Grown Business Alliance
- Asheville Humane Society
- Asheville Museum of Science (AMOS)
- Babies Need Bottoms
- Big Ivy Community Club
- Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation
- Bountiful Cities
- Carolina Small Business Development Fund
- Children First/Communities in Schools
- Eagle Market Streets Development Corporation
- Eblen Charities



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



## GRANTEES

- Eliada Homes
- Folk Heritage Committee
- Haywood Street Congregation
- Just Economics
- Literacy Council of Buncombe County
- Mountain BizWorks
- OnTrack Financial Education & Counseling
- Pisgah Legal Services
- Project Lighten Up
- Read to Succeed
- Sandy Mush Community Center
- The Environmental Quality Institute
- The Mediation Center
- Under One Sky Village Foundation
- WNC Communities
- Wortham Center for the Performing Arts
- YWCA



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Committee's inclusive, collaborative teamwork
- Created a deliberate/intentional decision making process
- Clear, well-structured application
- Diversity of projects supported
- Ability to be flexible in the time of COVID pandemic
- Online application/review software
- Transparent open meetings
- Support from staff



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



## CONSIDERATIONS

- Capacity building and technical assistance on outcomes for grantees and applicants
- Offering a high level of support for grantees as well as a high level of accountability
- Gaining a depth of understanding of projects across a broad portfolio
- Creating structures for equity in the grant process



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



## CONSIDERATIONS

- Assessing the needs for ongoing operational funding vs. projects limited to 3 years
- Analyzing how this grant funding stream fits in with other County or governmental funding
- Sustaining/increasing funding – maximizing funding from multiple sources



BUNCOMBE COUNTY



## NEXT STEPS

- Staff working with grantees to finalize funding contracts
- Quarterly grantee calls for information sharing and relationship building
- Monthly committee meetings following annual roadmap, including:
  - Monitoring performance & impact
  - Visiting with grantees
  - Gathering feedback from grantees
  - Designing next cycle's application and review



BUNCOMBE COUNTY





# MORE INFO

[www.BuncombeCounty.org/Grants](http://www.BuncombeCounty.org/Grants)



BUNCOMBE COUNTY

