

Positive Influences

*FY 2018 Buncombe County Community
Funding*

Positive Changes Youth Ministries

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Application Form

Project Name*

Name of Project
Positive Influences

Amount Requested*

Amount Requested
\$300,000.00

Service Area*

Which Commissioner Districts are served by this program?

Access a map of Buncombe County Commissioner districts [here](#).

District 1
District 3

Which county sustainability goal aligns best with the goals of this project?*

Based on the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan, select a Category, Goal & Objective that align with the focus of the project and the specific results that will be achieved.

Access the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan [here](#).

Community > Educational Resources that Match the Needs of the Community > Increase access to higher education

If applicable, select a second sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.

Result 2 is optional - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal & Objective.

Community > Educational Resources that Match the Needs of the Community > Increase parent/community involvement in education

If applicable, select a third sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.

Result 3 is optional - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal

& Objective.

Community > Equity in Access > Increase quantity and quality of recreational activities

Project Description

Project Description*

Description of Project

This is a request to Buncombe County for the community funding grant which will go to supporting, Positive Influences. This is a combined initiative of four grass roots nonprofits who work with the youth. These organizations are: Positive Changes Youth Ministries, My Community Matters(MCM), My Daddy Taught Me That and Upfront Management Sports agency(UFMSA). This is a project that meets the needs of the low income minority communities throughout the city and county by providing free access to student support services. As a collective we are impacting 150 minority youth in an effort to reduce the educational gap.

This project will take will take a three pronged approach to addressing the educational issues that are barriers to upward mobility.

First, is the recruitment of a collective 200 youth into our programs which will include an interest, academic and personal/family assessment of the youth through a partnership with MAHEC including the development of individualized student success plans.

Secondly, this is a full year wraparound initiative in which the youth will be participating in programs all year. MCM is a 7 week program in the summer in which the youth will learn interviewing skills, how to properly fill out an application, how to dress for success, life skills, conflict resolutions, participate in community service projects, mock interviews, seminars and community engagement activities. UFMSA will be work with the youth in the development of a healthy living program that will promote and engage the youth in group workouts and in a partnership with B.A.B.S. (Build A Better Salad) and Green Opportunities to promote healthy eating as well as training in food preparation.

Third, is the year-round engagement of middle school and high school students in career exploration, internships, mentoring, college preparedness activities, college tours, academic success initiatives, tutoring, as well as College Application, FAFAS and scholarship submission support.

How many people will this project serve?*

State the number of individuals or households in Buncombe County that will be served by this project. Also state the number of people that will experience the desired result. For example, if dropout prevention services are being delivered to 100 students, how many will successfully graduate from high school?

150 youth and their families will be impacted by this project and 50-75% of these youth will have the desired outcome for this project. This project may seem ambitious but even now we all maintain an 85% participation rate within our programs. We are working together to increase our numbers to a collective 200 participants throughout the county with the understanding that that people of color are but a small number of the total population but are adversely affected by the educational gap within the schools.

Describe the people this project will serve.*

Characterize the demographics of the project's target population in terms such as age, gender, income, race, ethnicity, geographic area, etc. Include information about method of referral/recruitment of the target population.

This project will serve low-income minority youth (ages 10yrs-19yrs old) throughout the City of Asheville and Buncombe County. All of our programs recruit through several different outreach methods such as: passing out information door to door, community attending meetings word of mouth online postings to social media sites, outreach within the schools and churches as well as through partnerships with other programs.

What key steps will you take to achieve the results of this project?*

Describe the core elements of your implementation plan, including milestones that will take place within the funding timeframe.

Jan-Feb 2017: we will start recruiting youth, meeting with the students and their parents, present our programs, being the intake process of interviews, assessments, pre-test and develop the student success plans.

Mar-April 2017: Orientation, followed by a series of training in preparation for the Spring Break College Tour.

May-June 2017: Meet with all participants and their parents to discuss summer plans and opportunities. Meet individually with 12th graders to discuss future plans.

July-Aug 2017: Students will participate in a variety of activities such as, Internships, mentoring, summer team building activities, MCM, conferences, camping trips, community service activities and college preparedness activities, meet with parents to ensure that all needs are met for the youth to start school.

Sept-Dec 2017: we will reduce our meeting times to twice a week with a service project every other weekend as well as tutoring and mentoring being offered throughout the week

Describe the evidence of success that backs this project's approach.*

What evidence of success (i.e. evidence-based research, practice model, accreditation, industry standards, and/or other framework) are you using as a basis for your project design?

We have been successful with the retention of 150 youth collectively between all of our programs. The model of on the ground engagement with the low income communities has been working for several of these programs for years. Our college readiness program is new but take the successes of the AVID program within the Asheville city middle and high schools which we follow a similar model. However, we are not governed by the boundaries of the ACS so we are able to reach the youth within the county, where they don't necessarily have access to this type of program.

Describe your data collection, tracking, and reporting procedures.*

Explain your methods for documenting project, service and client information. Include a description of any software or other tools utilized.

We document data such as interviews, questionnaires and surveys, observations, focus groups, and documents electronically, through office 365, Microsoft. We also keep hardcopies of confidential documents and student information in a locked filing system

Explain your technological resources and capacity.*

Explain your current technological strengths and barriers and how this impacts your ability to track data and report outcomes. Who is responsible for adaptation and use of technology within your organization?

We currently meet at the Arthur R. Edington Education & Career Center in south Asheville, where we have access to technical support from all of the partners within the center as well as Cothinkk and Eagle Market Street Development Group. There are no foreseen barriers that will impact our ability to track data and report outcomes.

Organizational Profile

How does the proposed project support your mission and strategic plan?*

State your mission and the date of your most recent strategic plan, and explain how the proposed project helps advance your organizational goals.

Our Mission is to empower the youth with the tools and skills needed to be successful in Life, through life skill building, Leadership training, tutoring, mentoring and Career Interest exploration, Community Service, College Exploration, and Academic Success incentive.

We are in the midst of strategic planning currently, Nov. 2016.

This project is our mission and will help us to reach more youth to advance our mission even further. In this collective of organizations each youth will graduate into another program and my College readiness program is the incentive for the younger youth to complete the other programs which is another form of recruitment/referral.

What expertise/accomplishments do you have that are relevant to the proposed project?*

List your organization's strengths as well as accomplishments from the past 3 years that position the organization to be successful with the proposed project.

Over the last three years my program has went from a free afterschool and summer camp program for low income families to a High school college readiness program. Over the years there has been several needs that I have tried to address with programing and the biggest lesson that I've learned throughout this process is that when you are dealing with youth "Its starts at home" and that our youth need to see that there is more to life then what there socioeconomic situation shows them is possible. Hope is one of the biggest motivations and that is what Positive Changes is all about, giving the youth the space to hope/dream as well as the wraparound support and skills to achieve them. We as a collective help the youth to recognize their greatness.

In the last three years I have developed and managed 2 youth programs Through Asheville GreenWorks which have grown greatly, in capacity, quality, and number of interns, from a 5 intern summer program to a 20 intern year-round program.

Describe partners that are critical to the success of your organization.*

List any external partners, intermediaries or advisors important to your success, and describe their role and evidence of their commitment. Describe successful collaborations with these people or groups.

Cothinkk, has supported our initiative of a collective project to address the educational gaps that we have been working to address separately and has also showed us how to work efficiently together. Eagle Market street development group is my fiscal agent and has been mentoring me along with Cothinkk as I worked to structure my program for long term sustainment. My community Matters, Upfront Management Sports agency and My Daddy Taught Me That are all critical partners for the success of this project

Financial Information

Nonprofit financial assurance requirements:

Financial statements, prepared using a recognizable basis of accounting (i.e., modified accrual) and IRS Form 990s must be submitted to Buncombe County annually.

- Organizations with annual revenues of \$300,000 or greater must submit financial statements audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
- Those with revenues between \$100,000 and \$300,000 must submit financial statements reviewed in accordance with SSARS 19.
- Those with revenues of less than \$100,000 must submit non-disclosure financial statements compiled in accordance with SSARS 19.

All financial statements must be reported on by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

These requirements are considered minimum requirements. Organizations may submit a higher level of assurance than is required.

IRS Form 990 - Upload Here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the 990 form you most recently completed.

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

We do not have a 990. We were established in 2014 and have not had any income to file a 990 until August 2016. We intend to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

Financial Statements - Upload here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements (audit, compilation or review).

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

We do not have a financial statements. We were established in 2014 and have not had any income until August 2016. We intend to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

Complete Budget Worksheet - Upload Here*

Download the budget form [Here](#).

Complete the budget form for this project/program and the overall agency. Save it to your computer, then upload it by clicking Choose File.

community-funding-budget-form.xlsx

Budget Narrative*

Describe all differences between current year and proposed year. List all pending funding sources with expected date of notification. Please detail any other information that may help clarify the budget.

The increase of \$200,000 to our approved budget is due to the need to contract with partnering organization in order to increase our collective impact the money that we are requesting is to support 4 different organizations and to help us to collaboratively build capacity and hire more staff to maintain the quality of our programs as we engage more youth. We are also applying for city funding and we will know by May if we have received that funding.

What (if any) portion of requested funds will be used to support capital expenses?*

Capital projects are defined as those used to acquire or upgrade physical assets such as property, buildings, or equipment. Please detail.

\$20,000 will go towards the purchase of a 15 passenger van for transporting youth to and from activities and programs. Transportation is one of the biggest barriers within the low income communities which prevents access. The purchase of this van will help us to overcome this barrier.

Employee Wages

Please provide information about the wage breakdowns of your employees. Living wage for Buncombe County has been identified as \$11.00 per hour for employees with employer-provided health insurance and \$12.50 per hour for employees without.

Employees with employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization with employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$10.99 per hour

\$11.00 - \$14.99 per hour

\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour

\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour

\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour

\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour

\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour

\$40.00+ per hour

0

Employees without employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization without employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$12.49 per hour

\$12.50 - \$14.99 per hour

\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour

\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour

\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour

\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour

\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour

\$40.00+ per hour

2- \$12.50-\$14.99 per hour

2- \$15.00-\$19.99 per hour

1- \$20.00-\$24.99 per hour