

FY2022 Buncombe County Early Childhood Grant Report

Organization Name:	Buncombe Partnership for Children	
Project Name:	Early Childhood Systems Coordination & Single Portal of Entry Implementation	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 1 (July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 2 (October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide brief responses that fit within the box provided

Overall project updates:	At the end of the 2021-22 fiscal year, ABPPC has grown its leadership and now has four new work groups (Racial Equity in ECE, Wrap-around & Transportation, Infant & Toddler access, and Data) in addition to the existing Program & Workforce work group and a few other ad-hoc work groups. These new work groups, most of which meet in the evenings and provide stipends for families & early educators serving on groups, have engaged a whole new set of families and classroom teachers who are investing themselves in the improvement and expansion of our ECE system. Buncombe Pre-K (the single portal of entry) launched in February with a large marketing push as well as intense local partner engagement. Families who have attended Q & A sessions have reacted overwhelmingly positively, as have all of our private NC Pre-K providers, even though it is a new system for them to learn. Integration with Head Start's database and processes is an ongoing challenge that we continue to work closely together on to address.
Activities related to increasing equity, diversity and inclusion:	EC Systems work is focusing on equity in new and exciting ways, largely through our new ABPPC work groups-- Racial Equity in ECE, Wrap-around & Transportation. Both groups heavily (and successfully!) recruited black and brown families and families who have struggled with ECE access in the past. These families are sharing their stories and learning about where the potential levers in the system are as they design practical changes for immediate implementation or future pilot programs. BPFC has also contracted with Davis Squared Consulting to work with our staff to deepen our staff commitment to and implementation of more equitable systems and services (internal and external).
Activities related to increasing operational excellence:	Buncombe Partnership for Children has implemented the project management tool Asana agency-wide, which makes collaboration and accountability much easier, especially as many team members continue to work remotely.

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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 partner agencies actively promoting the single portal with their clients	25	N/A	N/A	14	14	28
Number of local agencies/divisions/partners actively participating in ABPPC or its working groups	25	21	3	1	5	30
Number of diverse parent/caregivers engaged in a series on ECE "learning and leading," focused on their experiences with ECE, current issues, and how to be involved in local initiatives and advocacy	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	21	21

Comments:

EC Systems Coordination met all stated goals this year, and we did this by pivoting and adjusting our approach and our community engagement to meet shifting local needs. Buncombe Pre-K (the single portal of entry) has been widely accepted, and our ECE partners and community partners have found it easier to navigate and explain to families. ABPPC focused on engaging partners through the fall to shape the NC Pre-K Expansion report for the county, and in the spring, when it looked like that plan would be funded, ABPPC developed 4 new work groups and expanded leadership in order to grow even further the breadth and diversity of community members driving the implementation phase of that plan. Please note that rather than offering a short "learn and lead" advocacy series for families like initially planned, we instead incorporated this "learn and lead" approach into several longer-term ABPPC work groups centering family experience with the ECE system to eventually drive needed changes (the 21 parents/caregivers noted above have committed to a year's participation in one of these work groups).

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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	\$ 119,115	\$ 18,748	\$ 28,454	\$ 35,510	\$ 36,693	\$ (290)
Travel/Training	\$ 78			\$ 49	\$ 29	\$ 0
Technology	\$ 2,138		\$ 1,572	\$ 465	\$ -	\$ 101
Curriculum/Assessments					\$ -	\$ -
Licensing/Dues					\$ -	\$ -
Nutrition					\$ -	\$ -
Transportation					\$ -	\$ -
Supplies/Materials	\$ 532	\$ -	\$ 205	\$ 15	\$ 865	\$ (552)
Building Maintenance/Repair	\$ 415	\$ 108	\$ 123	\$ 111	\$ 90	\$ (16)
Rent/Occupancy/Utilities	\$ 4,760	\$ 1,185	\$ 1,169	\$ 1,240	\$ 1,183	\$ (17)
Furniture	\$ 142				\$ -	\$ 142
Playground/Outdoor space					\$ -	\$ -
Printing/Marketing/Website/Postage	\$ 809		\$ 44	\$ 485	\$ 583	\$ (303)
Admin Expenses (Legal, Accounting, Insurance,					\$ -	\$ -
Incentives and supports for family engagement--gift	\$ 6,172				\$ 5,200	\$ 972
Total	\$ 134,161	\$ 20,041	\$ 31,566	\$ 37,875	\$ 44,641	\$ 38

Comments: