

Great Expectations Funding Opportunity

Increasing Family Economic Security in Forsyth County

Like many communities, Forsyth County families struggle to achieve and maintain economic security. Economic mobility is also elusive—Forsyth County children who grow up in poverty are some of the least likely in the country to move up the economic ladder. Last year, the Trust funded ncIMPACT to conduct a survey and hold focus groups to learn about the most pressing issues facing Forsyth County. That research reinforced what we had heard from other projects—there are significant barriers to living wage work, racial disparities in poverty rates persist, and people experiencing poverty have few opportunities to meaningfully engage in efforts to solve the problem.

In order to begin to build a more inclusive economy in Forsyth County and connect families with young children with better opportunities, the Trust is interested in identifying the two-generation approaches best suited to Forsyth County that will contribute to community conditions where families economically thrive. Two-generation approaches build on the strengths and address the needs of children and their families holistically. Approaches can include aligning supports across early childhood education, workforce development and employment pathways, post-secondary education, and promoting racial equity and family-sustaining wages.

Goal

Increase integrated, family-centered approaches that promote educational attainment and economic/career advancement of parents of young children in Forsyth County.

Strategy

Support inclusive community centered design process to promote economic advancement for low-income parents with children ages birth to 8 years old.

Timeframe for Applications

Call-by date: January 17, 2020 (for February 4 deadline)
or March 11, 2020 (for April 2 deadline)

Application deadline: February 4, 2020 or April 2, 2020

Geographic Focus

Forsyth County

Opportunity Details

In order to identify the approaches best suited to Forsyth County, the Trust is seeking proposals from applicants who can facilitate community-centered design processes to learn about and assess the benefits and drawbacks to various two-generation approaches. Proposals should outline an inquiry process that centers the perspectives and leadership of people experiencing poverty and that culminates in actionable recommendations about the two-generation approaches that would best build on the strengths and meet the needs of Forsyth County families with young children experiencing poverty.

Applicants can propose an inquiry process focused on one type of two-generation support (aligning high-quality early childhood education with post-secondary education, for example), or across the full set of two-generation supports. Proposed activities should include plans for robust learning from two-generation approaches taken by other communities across and outside of our state. Competitive applications will include concrete plans for how to deeply engage and center the experiences of Forsyth County families with young children experiencing poverty in the design process.

Contact

To schedule a conversation about this opportunity, please contact Program Coordinator Alison Duncan for an initial consultation at alison@kbr.org or 336-397-5521.