





# TEAM2 WORKINBURKE





Burke County, NC



#### **OUR BACKGROUND**

The mission of our collaborative is to do the following:

- 1) Connect young people in our county with career, education, and mentorship opportunities
- 2) Reduce the number of Opportunity Youth in our county from 22% to 20% by 2025.

We were motivated to participate in OSOW because Burke County has the 3rd highest percentage of Opportunity Youth in NC.

#### **OUR PROGRESS**

Our biggest 'win' throughout the OSOW process was developing and launching a program that was specifically designed for Opportunity Youth in our area.

Our J.E.T. (Jobs, Education, and Training) program is focused on Opportunity Youth ages 18-24, or as young as 16 if they have dropped out of high school. After receiving mini grant money for marketing, we currently have 5 people who have been matched with jobs and 13 who have submitted applications!

Check out our website!

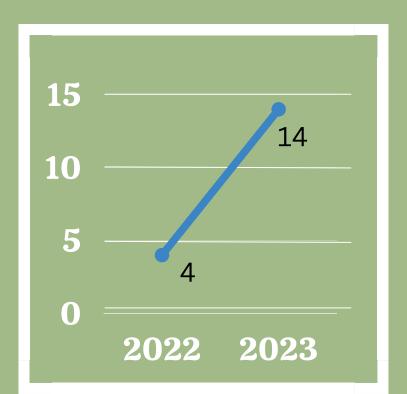




Through the OSOW process, we have been able to build strong relationships with new community partners, and engage new employers. We increased the number of partners for our OPT-IN program by 10 in 2023. In our efforts to engage new employers, we had to become very intentional with marketing in order to explain how our programs are mutually beneficial.

We have worked to modify our programming to better fit the needs of Opportunity Youth by offering personalized assistance to sign up program participants for WIOA wraparound support.

## WHAT WE LEARNED



**Employer Participation** 





Watch our 2023 Success Stories!

### PLANS FOR SUSTAINABILITY



Our biggest opportunity for continued growth is the launch of our J.E.T. program and continual interest in our OPT-IN internship program. Our greatest strength is our shared common goal of assisting Opportunity Youth as the new generation of workforce participants.

Wondering how you can help? We are always looking for employers to partner with, more specifically those who can offer employment in Burke County or remote roles. We are also looking for connections to community resources for our participants. *Last but not least, follow us on social media!* 







@Workinburke