

Small Grant Program Recipient Profiles 2002 Recipients

An Active Civics Education Plan for Asheville High School 9th Graders

Asheville City Schools/Asheville High School of Buncombe County was awarded \$3,000 in the fall of 2001 for an Active Civics Education Plan, reaching over 600 students. The Social Studies Department used social studies curricula to help selected incoming freshmen strengthen their ELP performance while also helping them adjust more effectively to high school. The project focused on activities with Kids Voting and the Board of Elections, including a display encompassing the history of voting by women and African-Americans, which emphasized the privilege of voting as a civic responsibility. For additional information, call 828.255.5352.

Bertie County Youth in Action

Bertie County received \$8,500 for the Youth in Action Program in the fall of 2001. The funding helped support the hiring of a part-time Youth Coordinator responsible for engaging youth in many aspects of county government and community organizations. The Coordinator will help link 4,000 young people with community resources. For additional information visit:

<http://www.co.bertie.nc.us/>.

Cary Youth Heritage Project

Davis Drive Middle School/Wake County Schools was awarded \$4,000 for the Cary Youth Heritage project in the fall of 2001. One hundred eighth-grade students helped produce and edit a 12-14 minute video, covering the history of Cary, North Carolina. Students used footage from their own interviews and research to create the video. The film will be used in classrooms, a local history museum and community settings. The project was a joint venture with the Town of Cary and the Cary Heritage Museum. For additional information, call 919.387.3033.

Chadbourn Youth Civic Education/Exploring Ourselves and Our Government

The Town of Chadbourn of Columbus County was awarded \$6,000 in the fall of 2001 for the Youth Civic Education project. Through a summer civic education program, around 40 participants learned basic principles of government and economics. Activities included community canvassing of residential needs, interviewing public officials, a trip to Raleigh, visiting government agencies, taking field trips to historic sites, volunteering and conducting mock campaigns and elections. For additional information, call 910.654.4423.

North Carolina Redistricting Assembly

Blue Ridge School/Jackson County Schools received \$10,000 in the fall of 2001 to enable six students from each of the state's six remaining K-12 schools to participate in a simulation for congressional redistricting. During the school year, the 36 students presumed the roles of six special interest groups involved in the redistricting debate. The project closed with a conference at Western Carolina University in June 2002. The students, acting as the "representative assembly", were charged with drawing the new congressional districts of North Carolina. For additional information, call 828.743.2646.

Project Inter-Views (Intergenerational Views)

Alamance/Burlington School System was awarded \$8,000 in the fall of 2001 for Project Inter-Views. One hundred students interviewed and videotaped local, ethnically diverse community members who were teenagers during the Great Depression and World War II. Students transformed this material into iMovies to bring history and events to high school, eighth, fifth and fourth grade students. For additional information, call 336.570.6090.

Quality Kids for a Quality Government

Onslow County Schools was awarded \$8,500 in the fall of 2001 for the Quality Kids for a Quality Government project involving about 200 students and mentors. The program helped the school system restructure and strengthen their high school civics program. Existing projects, such as local government day and a summer leadership camp, were more closely integrated to get students and teachers more involved in action-based civic education. For additional information, call 910.455.2211.

Youth Advisory Council

Designing Our Future, Inc., of Henderson County, received \$3,000 in the fall of 2001 to establish a Youth Advisory Council to their organization. The Council integrated a youth presence into Designing Our Future, whose purpose is to develop and implement a vision for Henderson County. Thirty youth learned what builds a strong community and how they can become a contributing factor. The project also encouraged the inclusion of youth in the Boards of Directors of community organizations. The project coordinated their activities with other youth development programs in the county. For additional information, call 828.698.8181 or e-mail DOF@blueridge.cc.nc.us.