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As a leading provider of early childhood education programs, WNCSource is preparing to submit a Carry-Over Funds Request application for Grant #04CH011737. This request will allow WNCSource to retain previously awarded grant funds that to date have remained unspent.

The requested funding amount of \$651,582 includes retention of previously awarded grant funding from the 2021 (Year 2) grant year to support:

- \$131,194 in construction soft cost funds previously awarded in 9/28/2021 to facilitate the planning and completion of the Columbus Children's Center in Columbus, NC
 - Staff Training
 - Equipment and Furnishings for Classrooms, Outdoor Learning Environment, Commercial Kitchen, Office Equipment, Computers, etc.
- \$520,388 in unspent operating funds previously awarded 6/30/2021 that WNCSource will use to fund an innovative Employee Retention program in 2022 2023. The new program incorporates specific strategies aimed at strengthening and retaining qualified and experienced early childhood education staff including:
 - Retention Bonuses
 - o Mental Health Trainings
 - Wellness Activities
 - Team-building Events

Approval by the WNCSource Policy Council and the Board of Directors is required to submit this Carry-Over Fund Request application.