

**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

# Juntos

FOR A BETTER EDUCATION | PARA UNA MEJOR EDUCACIÓN

North Carolina  
Annual Report  
2023-2024

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Bladen

Catawba

Durham

Greene

Lee

Sampson

Transylvania

Wake



# Letter from the Senior Director

Dear Juntos partners and family,

Thank you for supporting Juntos in the 2023–2024 school year. Your investment helped us grow our program and deepen career exploration for our youth. We increased participation by over 43% and strengthened our Career Pathways focus. Through the Juntos YEA project (supported by USDA-NIFA) and the YES Resilience program (supported by UNC-CH Institute for the Environment, NSF), Juntos NC expanded youth career exploration in Agriculture and Environmental Science. We also initiated partnerships to build on a health career exploration curriculum.

In August 2024, six Land Grant Universities—Washington, Idaho, Wisconsin, Texas, and North Carolina—joined the National Juntos Consortium (NJC) to advance sustainable programming, research, and culturally responsive practices nationally. As we enter a new season, we remain focused on empowering youth and families to Cultivate their Future.

I welcome time to discuss any thoughts or questions you may have about this report or the program overall.



Diana Urieta, MSW  
Juntos Senior Director/Extension Specialist  
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## Juntos Program Summary

The Juntos Program (pronounced “Who-n-toes”), meaning “Together” in Spanish, is dedicated to uniting community partners in order to equip students in grades 8 through 12, along with their families, with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to ensure high school graduation and broaden post-secondary academic and career opportunities.

Launched in 2007, the program was born out of a survey conducted among Latino students and their families, revealing a critical need for greater understanding of the educational system. Today, Juntos serves all students and families, offering a comprehensive program that includes Family Engagement, 4-H clubs, academic success coaching, and an annual Summer Academy.

In recent years, Juntos has expanded to include workforce development initiatives, encouraging high school students to explore both college and career pathways. The program’s success is made possible through the collaborative efforts of Extension’s 4-H and Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) agents, K-12 school systems, post-secondary institutions, and community volunteers, creating a sustainable and impactful model that continues to thrive in communities across the United States.



**This report presents the outcomes  
of the Juntos program in  
North Carolina for the  
2023-2024 academic year.**

# What Did Juntos Do in 2023-2024?

Juntos engaged students and families in every program component:



**158** meetings held



**112** events held



**226** sessions held



**114** students hosted

## Juntos 4-H Club

Juntos 4-H Clubs focus on career exploration, community service, college campus tours, and field trips to increase college readiness and sense of belonging in students' schools and communities. Clubs can happen during school or afterschool and each club is led by a group of elected student officers with the Juntos Coordinator as the adult advisor.

## Family Engagement Events

Family Engagement Events include a five-week or six-week workshop series and additional family events designed to empower families and increase engagement in their students' educational journey. Family Nights feature guest speakers that introduce resources and networking connections to both the students and the families that attend.

## Success Coaching

One-on-One Success Coaching involves monitoring academic progress during one-on-one meetings between Juntos Coordinators and youth. Students are guided towards achieving personalized academic and career goals. Individual coaching sessions happen at least once a month and follow a plan created by the student and the coordinator.

## Summer Programming

Summer Programming includes students having the opportunity to attend the Juntos Summer Academy held in June at North Carolina State University, where students gain valuable skill sets, explore careers, and prepare presentations to showcase their week-long project. In 2024's Summer Academy, Juntos also hosted parents for the Saturday closing event.

# 2023-2024 Program Milestones

**470** total students served in North Carolina

**114** students attended Juntos 4-H Summer Academy in June of 2024

The Juntos Program was available in **17** schools

**90** enrolled youth were seniors (19.1% of enrolled youth)

**100%** of seniors graduated high school

"Juntos continues to not only grow, but thrive across our North Carolina communities. Throughout the year, we've seen incredible stories of students and their families engaging in the opportunities made possible by our dedicated coordinators across the state. We are so proud of their hard work, determination, and commitment to Cultivating their Futures."

**Quote from  
Juntos Assistant Director**



# Who Did Juntos Serve in 2023-2024?

More than two-thirds (71%) of the students participating in Juntos were traditional public High School students. Another 17.5% were in Cooperative Innovative High Schools (often referred to as "Early Colleges"). Cooperative Innovative High Schools are small public high schools, usually located on the campus of a university or community college, first-generation college students, and/or students who would benefit from accelerated learning opportunities. The remaining 11.5% of Juntos students were in traditional public middle schoolers.

**In 2023 - 2024, Juntos served 470 students and their families, across eight counties.**

**Early  
College**

**82**  
students

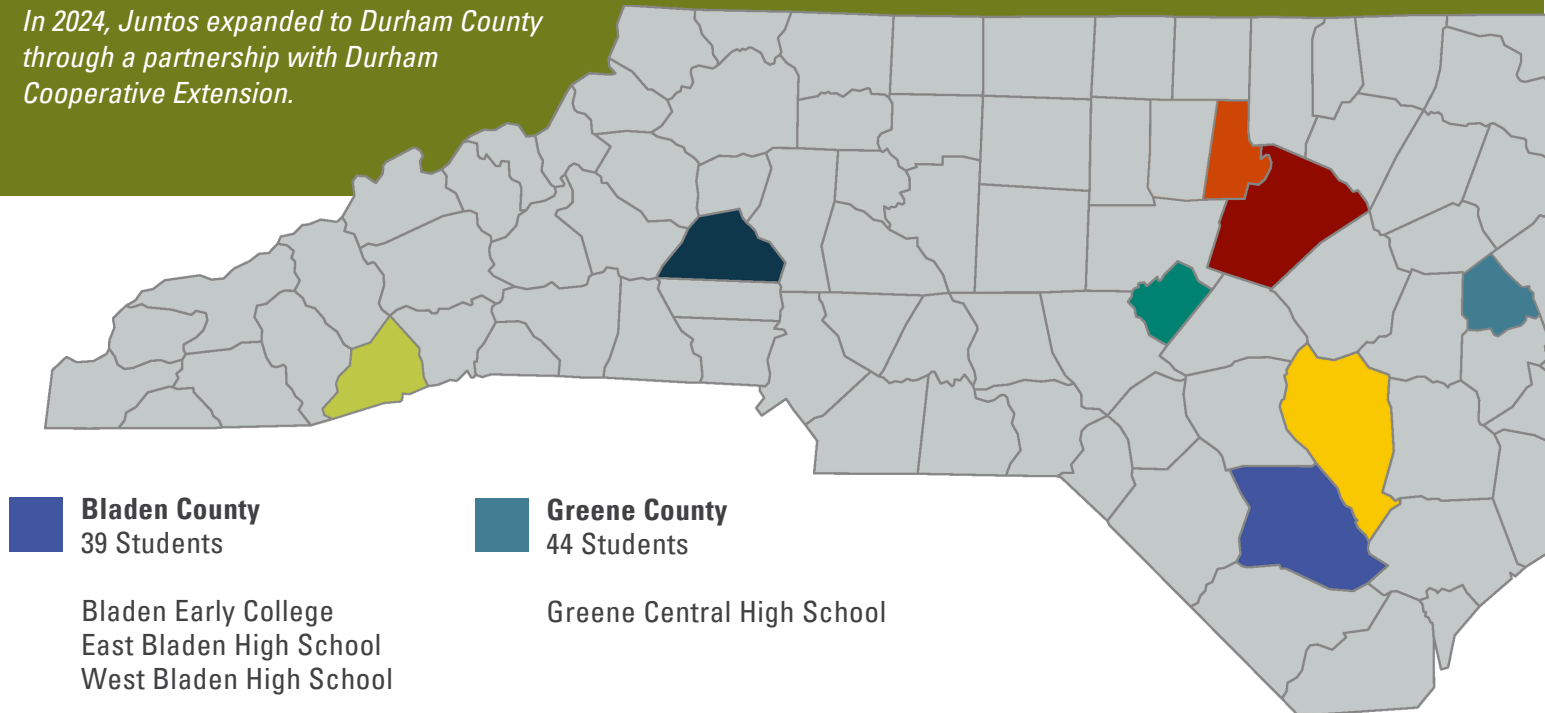
**High  
School**

**334**  
students

**Middle  
School**

**54**  
students

*In 2024, Juntos expanded to Durham County through a partnership with Durham Cooperative Extension.*



**Bladen County**  
39 Students

Bladen Early College  
East Bladen High School  
West Bladen High School

**Greene County**  
44 Students

Greene Central High School

**Catawba County**  
121 Students

Arndt Middle School  
St Stephens High School  
Challenger Early College

**Lee County**  
31 Students

Lee County High School

**Transylvania County**  
21 Students

Brevard High School

**Durham County <sup>1</sup>**  
20 Students

Southern High School

**Sampson County**  
85 Students

Sampson Middle School  
Sampson Early College  
Clinton High School

**Wake County**  
109 Students

Neuse River Middle School  
Vernon Malone Career Academy  
East Wake High School  
Knightdale High School

<sup>1</sup> New Juntos site in 2023-2024



# Where are our graduated seniors now?

In 2024, Juntos had 90 seniors graduate from high school and 63 of them (70%) enrolled in some kind of higher education institution. 13% (8 of 63) of students enrolled in a public four-year university, while 9% (5 of 63) of students enrolled in a private four-year university. However, 78% (49 of 63) of youth that enrolled in higher education after graduating high school enrolled in a community college. Community colleges allow youth to stay local after high school, are affordable in comparison to four-year institutions, and offer a broad range of two-year degrees and certifications.

**63 of 90 graduating seniors enrolled in higher education.**

**Public  
4-Year**

**8**

students

**Private  
4-Year**

**6**

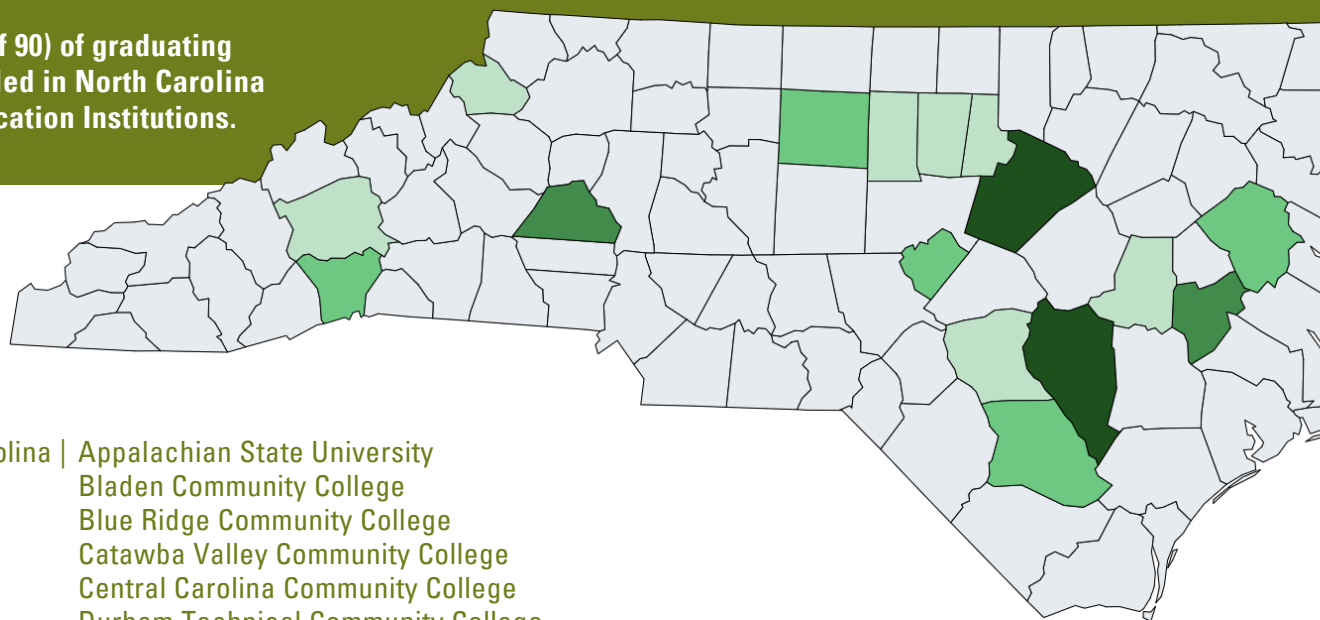
students

**Community  
College**

**49**

students

**65.5% (59 of 90) of graduating seniors enrolled in North Carolina Higher Education Institutions.**



**59**

North Carolina | Appalachian State University  
Bladen Community College  
Blue Ridge Community College  
Catawba Valley Community College  
Central Carolina Community College  
Durham Technical Community College  
East Carolina University  
Elon University  
Fayetteville Technical Community College  
Lenoir Community College  
Lenoir-Rhyne University  
Meredith College  
Methodist University  
North Carolina A&T University  
North Carolina State University  
Sampson Community College  
Shaw University  
Southeastern Technical Community College  
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill  
University of North Carolina - Charlotte  
University of North Carolina - Greensboro  
Wake Technical Community College  
Warren Wilson College  
Wayne Community College

**In addition, students also enrolled in the following out-of-state institutions:**

Georgia | Kennesaw State University  
Georgia Southern University

Indiana | Ivy Tech Community College

Virginia | Hollins University

South Carolina | Furman University

# What was the Impact of Juntos on Students?

## Career and College Readiness

Youths valued learning about college options, scholarships, financial aid, and career pathways. They appreciated mentoring and guidance in preparing for their future education.

## Personal Growth and Confidence

Many of the students noted that Juntos helped them build self-confidence, perseverance, and motivation. They learned to advocate for themselves, explore new opportunities, and embrace their identity.

## Community and Family Bonding

Many of the students emphasized making new friends, bonding with mentors, and feeling part of a supportive community. Juntos also strengthened their relationships with family members, particularly through shared learning experiences.



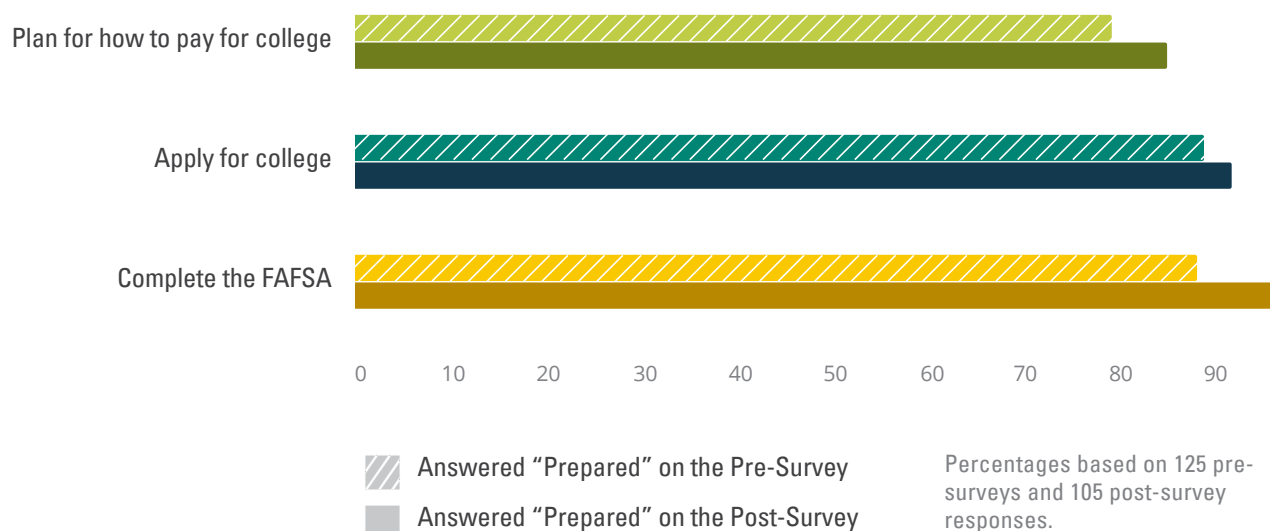
"Juntos has given me more knowledge about college and attending university than my regular classes. This program has helped me strive greatly academically and show pride in my latino roots. It made things clear for my mother and I and has helped our bond immensely."

"I really like that Juntos allowed me to create a sense of community with my Juntos friends and helped me become more proud of my heritage."

"Juntos has given me more hope in looking for college and finding a way to pay for school. I have also learned to become more involved and connected to my family so it has built a bridge between me and my family."

Quotes from  
Juntos students

In particular, among high school juniors and seniors, many more knew how to apply and pay for college at the end of the year than they had at the beginning of the school year.



### Juntos students demonstrated high levels of academic rigor and achievement.

- For 2023-2024, the average weighted GPA for Juntos students was 3.0, well above the minimum required of 2.5 for admission to the University of North Carolina system. The average unweighted GPA for Juntos students was 2.85.
- 65% of high school students were enrolled in Honors classes, 14% in AP courses, and 24% in college courses.<sup>1</sup>
- 100% of high school seniors graduated, with 69% enrolling in a 2- or 4-year college/university program.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Based on 280 high school transcripts.

<sup>2</sup> Based on 90 students enrolled as 12th graders in 2023-2024.

### Student Evaluation Data and Methods

The data above is drawn from surveys administered to students at the beginning and end of the academic year, student transcripts, and program attendance records. Quotes are from open-ended questions on the post-test survey. Response rates were 59% (n=270) for the pre-survey and 63% (n=290) for the post-survey.



# What are Parent Expectations for their Participation in Juntos?

## College Readiness

Parents want their children to be prepared for college by learning about universities, financial aid, and scholarships, as well as opportunities within colleges.

## Family Support and Involvement

Some parents expressed that Juntos helps strengthen family connections as they noted how important parent involvement is.

## Social and Community Engagement

Building strong social connections and community engagement is important to parents, as they want to learn about opportunities to be involved in their community.



## Did Juntos meet parent expectations?

“Es un programa muy bonito en el cual hemos aprendido mucho acerca de programas que pueden ayudar a nuestros hijos para que puedan lograr sus metas de estudiar en el college y otros programas que ayudan a la comunidad.”

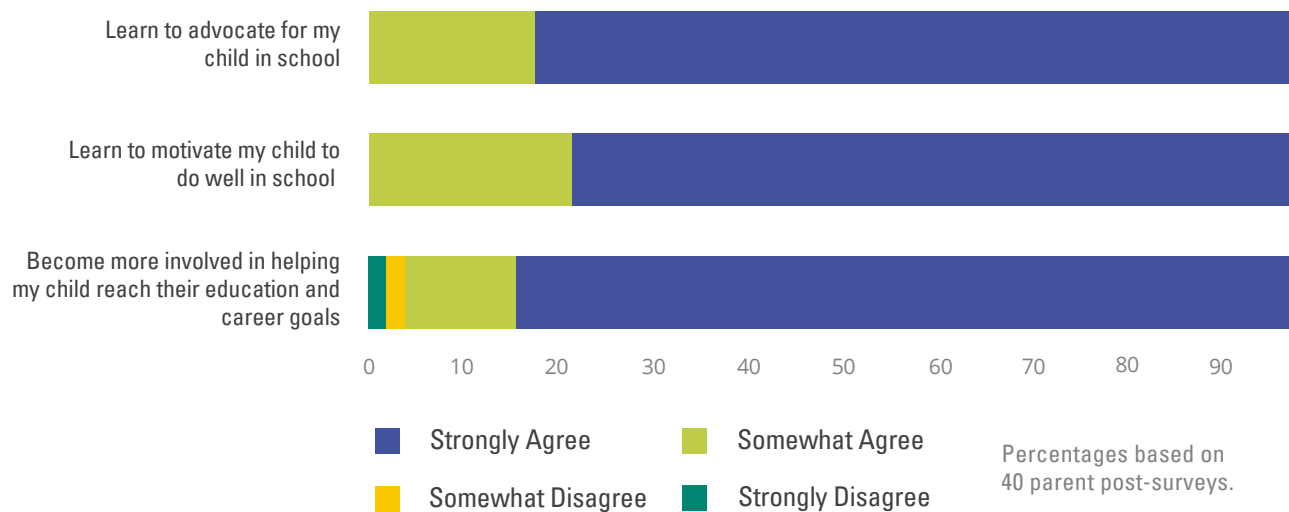
“Juntos es un excelente programa donde los padres tenemos la oportunidad de participar y de tener la información necesaria para ayudar a nuestros hijos a seguir estudiando niveles universitarios.”

“Being part of Juntos has taught us to work as a team and to be leaders in helping our communities.”

Quotes from  
Juntos parents



In particular, among parents, most reported to strongly agreeing or somewhat agreeing that Juntos has helped them in the following ways:



### Parent Evaluation Data and Methods

Data from parents is drawn from a pre-survey and a post-survey administered to parents. The surveys consisted of Likert-Scale and open-ended questions designed to measure the impact of Juntos on parents.

# Summer Academy

In June 2024, the Juntos Program hosted Summer Academy, during which 9th to 12th grade Juntos students from across the state spent five days at North Carolina State University, experiencing campus as college students. Attendees work closely with college students, professionals, and staff, and have opportunities to network and learn about different career pathways and essential post-secondary skills. Throughout the week, students also participated in a College Fair, a Business Mixer, and a field trip to Wake Technical Community College. The majority of youth time was spent participating in a project through the week, tackling a challenge question in topics like technology, agriculture, environmental science, and engineering.

**The 2024 Summer Academy saw 114 students from eight North Carolina counties participate in Juntos' summer programming.**



Juntos students attended classes centered around specific career paths and skills.

## SKILLS:

- How to Slay in a Professional Way
- Let's Eat
- All About 4-H
- Glow up with Professional Communication
- What I Wish I Knew - College Finances
- Embracing Your Inner Storyteller
- Leadership 101

## CAREERS:

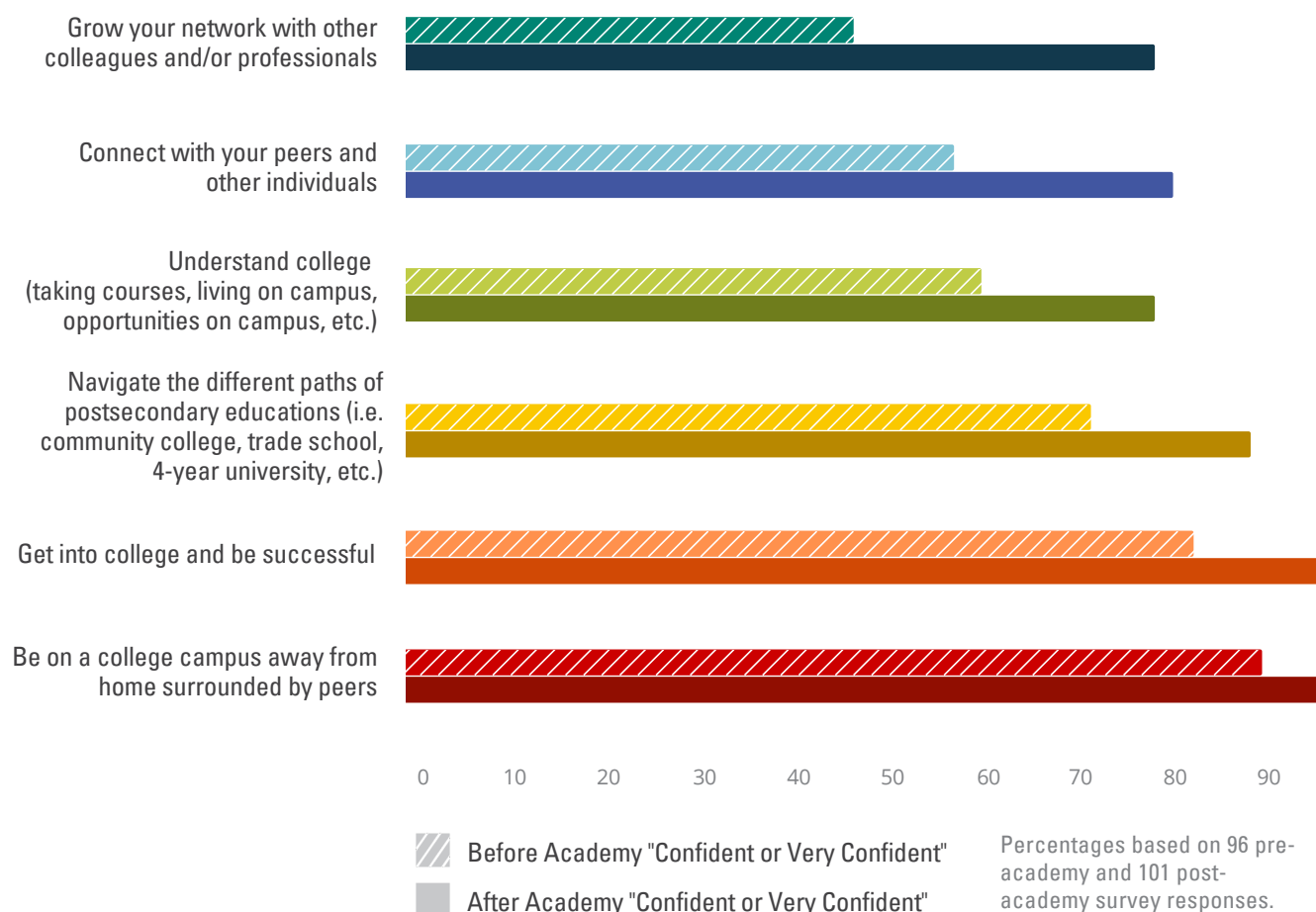
- Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center
- Gaming and eSports Lab
- Transformational Scholars
- RTI Careers
- Day in the Agricultural Life
- Agricultural Careers

## PROJECTS:

- AI - Assisted Monitoring of Freshwater Mussels
- What's in YOUR air? | YES Resilience - SEE Solutions
- InventXYZ
- It's Corn!
- Plant Health and DNA
- What's in your soil?
- Fertilizer of the Future

*The Summer Academy winners of the Saturday Project Presentations are pictured with their YES Resilience - SEE Solutions poster and fan.*

By the end of the Summer Academy, students reported having much greater confidence in their networking and communication skills, and their college readiness.



### Summer Academy Evaluation Data and Methods

The data above is based on a pre-test and post-test survey administered to students at the beginning and end of Summer Academy, respectively. The survey consisted of agree/disagree, Likert-scale, before/after, and open-ended questions designed to measure the impact of the Academy workshops and activities. Response rates for the pre-academy survey was 91% (n=104), and 93% (n=106) for the post-academy survey.





## Academy Collaborators

Juntos Summer Academy presented as many diverse opportunities as we did thanks to the incredible partnerships that dedicate time, effort, and funding to these experiences. We appreciate everyone that joined the Juntos Familia this week!

Pa Nhia Moore  
Hayley Flores  
Colin Keenan  
Trisha Mackey  
Brooke Dove  
Guadalupe Arce  
Didier Turcios  
Alex Green  
Roman Ruiz Esparza  
Amarilys Bernacet  
Grace Croitoru  
Terri Long  
Angel Cruz  
Liz Driscoll  
Jevon Smith  
Marianela Rodriguez-Carres  
Natasha Dixon  
Lily Rivas

Ozzy Hernandez  
Emma Haynes  
Sally Cabrera  
Alexis Hill  
Lindsay Veros  
JuanEs Ramirez  
Maru Gonzalez  
Zamantha Granados  
Edgar Lobaton  
Sarah Yelton  
Kathleen Gray  
Dana Haine  
Annette Guo  
Rubén Rollán-Álvarez  
Alejandra Huerta  
Madaris Serrano Perez  
Marcela Pierce

## Student Reflections

“Connecting with peers and learning more about agricultural careers, socializing and getting out of my comfort zone.”

“Talking to people that helped me find my passion like Mrs. Merlos, Billy, and Andres.”

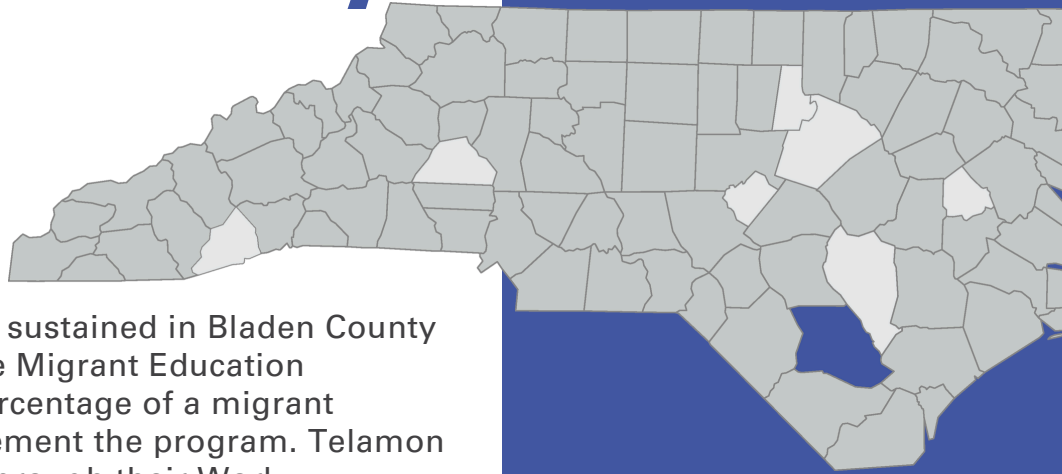
“My favorite part of summer was being able to spend time with my friends, making new friends and learning about the genetics behind corn in the lab. Also, I really enjoyed going to different field trips like the farms and the science museum.”

Quotes from Juntos  
Summer Academy students

# COUNTY PROFILES

# Bladen County

39 Students Enrolled



The Juntos Program has been sustained in Bladen County through a partnership with the Migrant Education Program, which provides a percentage of a migrant education staff's time to implement the program. Telamon has also funded an assistant through their Work Experience Program. Anonymous Trust funds Summer Academy scholarships.

## The Juntos Program is implemented in three schools:

- ▶ East Bladen High School
- ▶ West Bladen High School
- ▶ Bladen Early College

12

4-H Meetings  
Held

7

Family Events  
Held

7

Students Attended  
Summer Academy

## County Demographics:

Population of 29,484

Median income of \$40,476

9.5% of the population  
identifies as Hispanic or Latino



"I have been in Juntos for almost three years, and my experience has been great. I enjoy the summer academy because it has allowed me to make many friends from across the state."



- Juntos Student



Bladen





# Bladen

## County Highlights



Juntos students from Bladen Early College, East Bladen, and West Bladen participated in a college visit to Fayetteville State University. Students were informed about the different minors and majors offered along with scholarships. Students expressed being excited to see dorms as some have not seen dorms before. Students also experienced eating in the university cafeteria.



Students created extreme heat kits for farmworkers in Southeast NC, in partnership with NC Extension's Roberto Rosales. Through the YES Resilience curriculum, our students learned about extreme heat and its dangers on our migrant farmworkers. Students helped create personalized gift cards to pass out to migrant agricultural workers. One student wrote, "Hola, quiero decirle que tengo mucho respeto por lo que hacen. Mi papá también era migrante de agricultura entonces yo conozco que difícil es. Gracias por todo lo que hacen." This service project helps student connect with their culture and create something special for members of their community.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Bladen County Schools | Migrant Education Bladen Cooperative Extension

Telamon

Anonymous Trust

### Partners:

Roberto Rosales | NC State Farmworkers Safety Department

College Foundation of North Carolina

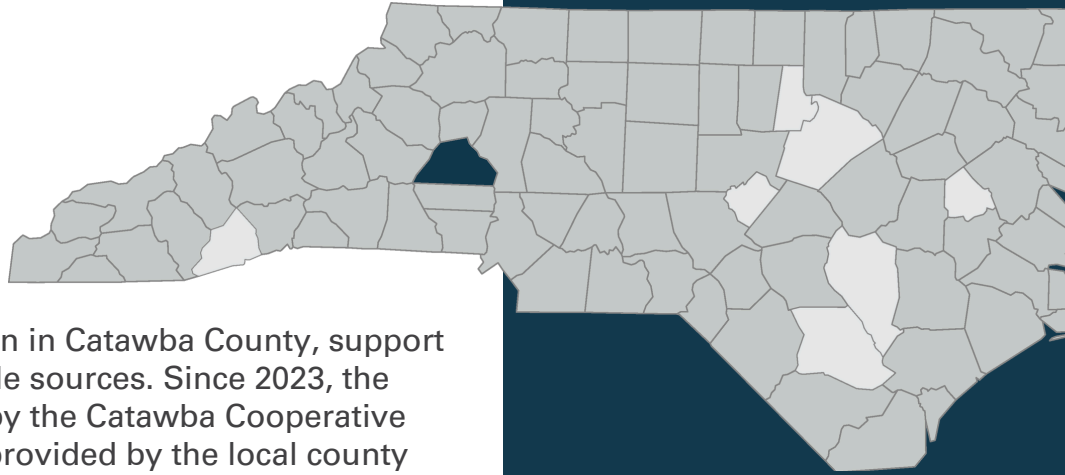
Fayetteville State University

Bladen



# Catawba County

121 Students Enrolled



Since the Juntos Program began in Catawba County, support has been garnered from multiple sources. Since 2023, the program has been supervised by the Catawba Cooperative Extension office, with funding provided by the local county commissioners, who have supported a full-time position. Catawba Public Schools also funds a part-time Family Liaison position.

## The Juntos Program is implemented in three schools:

- ▶ St. Stephen's High School
- ▶ Challenger High School
- ▶ Arndt Middle School

59

4-H Meetings  
Held

16

Students Attended  
Summer Academy

22

Family Events  
Held

187

Success Coaching  
Sessions Held



## County Demographics:

Population of 160,645

Median income of \$64,544

11.7% of the population  
identifies as Hispanic or Latino



"Juntos has created a sense of community at my school, and within the program, it's helped me grow as a student and a person overall. Juntos gave me the skills and resources to attain higher education and motivated me to go to college."



- Juntos Student

Catawba





# Catawba

## County Highlights



The theme for the February 2024 Family Night was improving parent/teen communication and was based on the book *The 5 Love Languages of Teenagers* by Gary Chapman. Families were able to get an overview of the five love languages and potential ways to “speak” them with others. Parents and students shared their love language and made a plan of new things to try this month to using this information. Thanks to the generosity of a grant received from the Hickory Community Relations Council, each family received a copy of the book to take home.



The Challenger Early College High School Juntos 4-H Club worked on the 4-H Equity Photography Challenge. Students were introduced to the difference between equity and equality and taught photography basics. Students were given an opportunity to take pictures highlighting examples of inequity and then critiqued pictures shared by the students. The pictures and their write-ups were displayed at the December Family Night and a student briefly described the project to families during the meeting.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Catawba County Cooperative Extension

Catawba County Schools

Catawba County United Way

Hickory Community Relations Council

Catawba County Commissioners

### Partners:

Allegiance Staffing

Appalachian College Advising Corps

Appalachian State University Undergraduate Admissions

Catawba Valley Community College

Centro Latino Hickory

College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC)

K-64 Learning

Lenoir Rhyne University

Catherine Magennis, Attorney at Law

NC School of Science & Mathematics

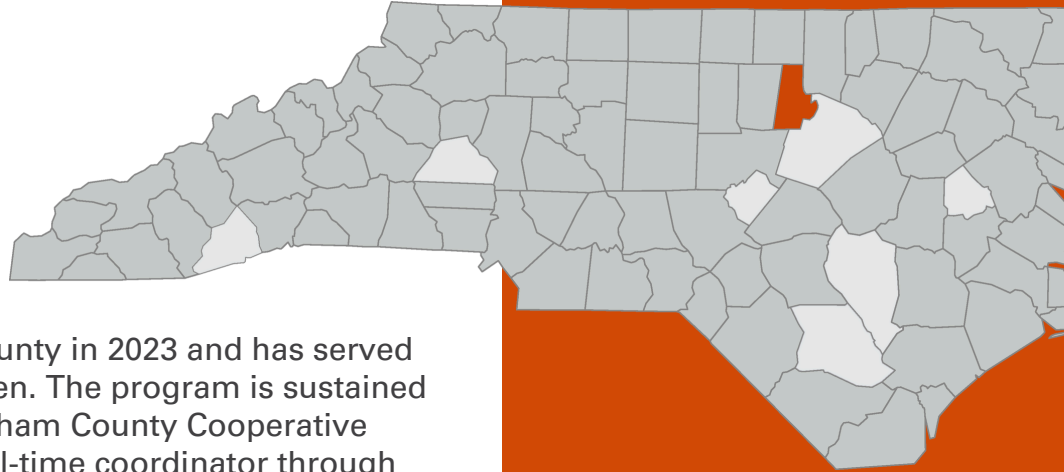
Telamon

Catawba



# Durham County

20 Students Enrolled



Juntos launched in Durham County in 2023 and has served more than 20 students since then. The program is sustained through a partnership with Durham County Cooperative Extension, which supports a full-time coordinator through county commissioners funding.

**The Juntos Program is implemented in one school, Southern High School, though some activities are implemented at Durham Extension.**

## County Demographics:

Population of 336,892

Median income of \$79,501

15.4% of the population identifies as Hispanic or Latino

9

Family Events  
Held

11

Students Attended  
Summer Academy



"It is a really nice program in which we have learned a lot regarding the programs that could help our children reach their goals of studying in college, and the other programs that can help in the community."



- Juntos Parent



Durham





# Durham

## County Highlights



Programming for Durham Juntos started in the Spring of 2024, as families geared up to start their Family Workshop Series. In March, Juntos partnered with Durham Technical Community College to host Juntos families for a Family Day during their Hispanic Open House. Families and students learned about continuing education options, financial aid information, and toured the campus. Juntos celebrated seniors that graduated Southern that day as well.



In the Spring, students experienced their first field trip. The Juntos Program took students to the North Carolina Society for Hispanic Professionals' Summit in February. Students were able to network and win some prizes. One student won a laptop and another student won a \$500 voucher to Delta Airlines.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Durham County Cooperative Extension

Durham County Commissioners

### Partners:

Durham County School System

Durham Technical Community College

Book Harvest

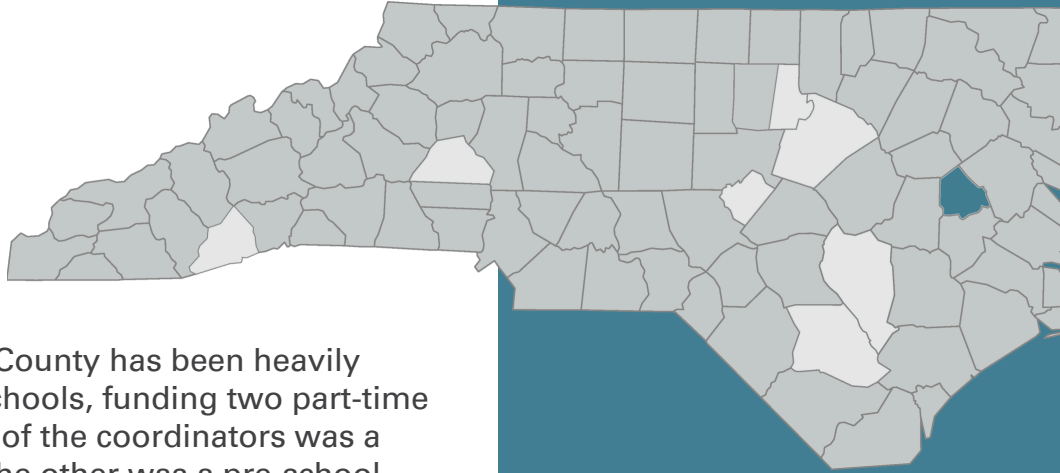
NC State College Advising Corps

Durham



# Greene County

44 Students Enrolled



The Juntos Program in Greene County has been heavily supported by Greene County Schools, funding two part-time coordinators. In 2023-2024, one of the coordinators was a teacher at the high school and the other was a pre-school teacher with experience engaging families. As this was its third year implementing, the program saw an exponential growth in enrollment.

**The Juntos Program is implemented in one school,** Greene Central High School, but a handful of students from the Early College also attended clubs and family engagement events regularly.

8

4-H Meetings  
Held

9

Family Events  
Held

19

Students Attended  
Summer Academy



## County Demographics:

Population of 20,530

Median income of \$50,904

15.9% of the population  
identifies as Hispanic or Latino

"Juntos allowed me to  
interact with new people and  
helped me get out of my  
comfort zone."

- Juntos Student

Greene





# Greene

## County Highlights



Lenoir Community College hosted youth to showcase the pathway program, Conectémonos, that creates a clear connection from the community college to East Carolina University. The program works to recruit the hispanic community to enroll in ECU. This event allowed students and parents to learn about the pathway program and hear what degrees are available at Lenoir Community College.



In February, Derek Carrillo received a Spotlight award from Greene County 4-H during the Achievement Night. He was recognized due to his exemplary sportsmanship as he was named All Conference Special Teams Kicker and Greene Central Team Player of the Year. Derek also participated in the National 4-H Conference in Washington DC. As a senior, Derek will be attending Lenoir Community College in 2024, and received a full-ride scholarship for his two years there.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Greene County Schools

Blue Cross Blue Shield

Lenoir Community College

Anonymous Trust

### Partners:

LCC - Hispanic Outreach Department

La Flama Restaurant

Greene County Middle School

Greene County Early College

East Carolina University

Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium

Greene



# Lee County

31 Students Enrolled



The Juntos Program in Lee County had been sustained at a part-time basis through a partnership with the Migrant Education Department, but in 2023, Juntos was able to hire a full-time coordinator due to a USDA-NIFA grant that the State Office was awarded. The grant established collaboration with Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) and a Career Navigator was hired to assist the program from the CCCC side.

**The Juntos Program is implemented in one school,**  
Lee County High School.

## County Demographics:

Population of 67,059

Median income of \$63,060

21.8% of the population  
identifies as Hispanic or Latino

16

4-H Meetings  
Held

17

Students Attended  
Summer Academy

12

Family Events  
Held

24

Success Coaching  
Sessions Held



"Juntos has helped my family  
know more about resources  
and university options for our  
kids."

- Juntos Parent

Lee



# Lee County Highlights



Juntos students attended Teen Retreat, organized by Pam Kerley, the Program Assistant from Lee County Extension. This retreat worked to bring together 4-H students from around Lee County to gain leadership skills through a series of team building activities.



Lee County Juntos 4-H members visited the Plant Science Building at NC State University in February of 2024 for a day of interaction and learning. Students participated in various hands-on activities and learned about the different careers in Agriscience. Students are pictured here making music via circuits and plants.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Lee County Extension

Lee County Schools

USDA-NIFA YEA Grant

Central Carolina Community College

### Partners:

El Refugio

College Foundation of North Carolina

Jonesboro Community Garden

Thread Capital

Trio-Upward Bound

El Futuro

El Vínculo Hispano

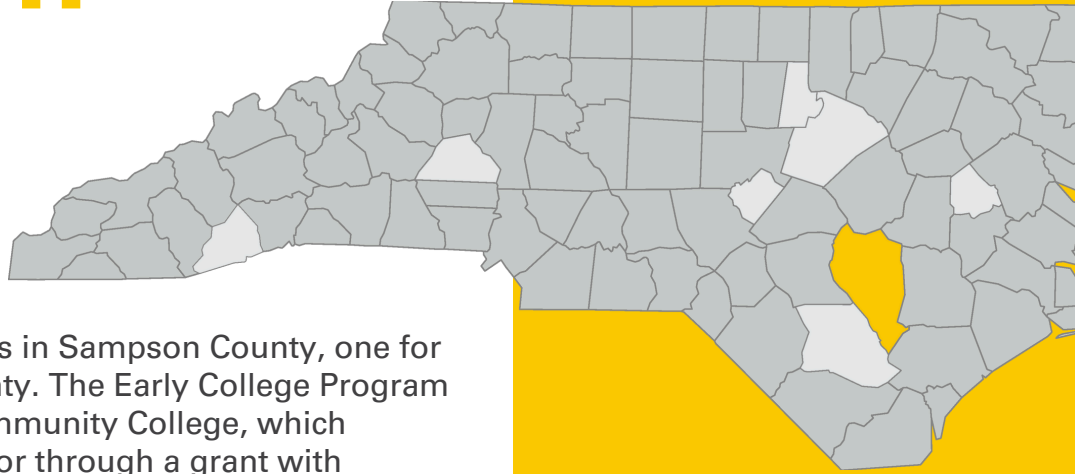
Lee





# Sampson County

85 Students Enrolled



There are two Juntos Programs in Sampson County, one for each school district in the county. The Early College Program is supervised by Sampson Community College, which supports a part-time coordinator through a grant with Anonymous Trust. The Clinton City Juntos Program is funded through Clinton City Schools, paying for a part-time coordinator to facilitate family engagement and clubs at both the high school and the middle school.

**In total, the Juntos Program is implemented in three schools:**

- ▶ Sampson Early College
- ▶ Clinton High School
- ▶ Sampson Middle School

20

4-H Meetings  
Held

14

Family Events  
Held

19

Students Attended  
Summer Academy



## County Demographics:

Population of 59,601

Median income of \$53,159

22.4% of the population  
identifies as Hispanic or Latino



"Juntos has given me more hope in looking for college and finding a way to pay for school. I have also learned to become more involved and connected to my family so it has built a bridge between me and my family."



- Juntos Student

Sampson





# Sampson

## County Highlights



Seniors from Sampson Early College Juntos presented at the Sampson County 4-H Achievement Night. The Juntos students focused their discussion around what Juntos is, what it means to them, and the projects they have successfully completed through Juntos 4-H. Students highlighted the YES Resilience Project, where they made 30 Emergency Preparedness Kits given to Stephanie Corona from Sampson Extension's Farmworker Health and Safety department.



In April, Clinton City Juntos took 7 students to the North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professional's Hispanic Summit event in Raleigh. Students and staff attended sessions, learning about topics like mental health, social media safety, and storytelling from an immigrant's perspective. This transformative event was relevant and gave our students an opportunity to network with other students from around North Carolina.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Anonymous Trust  
Sampson Community College  
Clinton City Schools

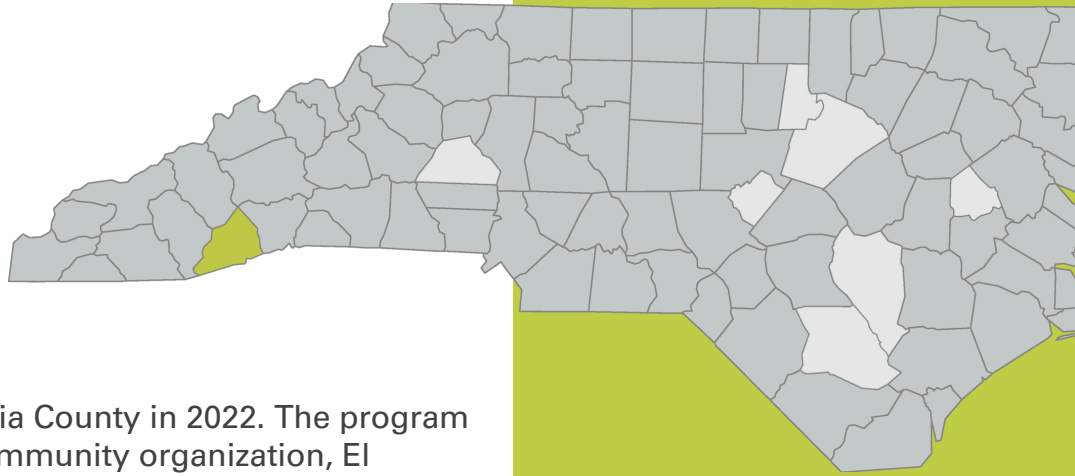
### Partners:

SCC Learning Resource Center  
SECHS Glee Club  
AgCarolina Farm Credit  
La Costeña 2  
Sampson County Child Advocacy Center  
Clinton Parks and Recreation  
Simple Gifts Scholarship Recipients  
El Campo Restaurant  
Sampson County Cooperative Extension



# Transylvania County

21 Students Enrolled



Juntos launched in Transylvania County in 2022. The program is sustained through a local community organization, El Centro Hispano, which allows for a staff member to dedicate a portion of their time to coordinating Juntos at their community center. Collaboration with the Transylvania County Extension office created opportunities for youth to participate in 4-H activities throughout Western NC as well.

**The Juntos Program was implemented in school, Roswell High School.**

## County Demographics:

Population of 59,601

Median income of \$53,159

22.4% of the population identifies as Hispanic or Latino

10

4-H Meetings  
Held

8

Family Events  
Held

3

Students Attended  
Summer Academy



"I didn't have any information on how to get my daughter into college. I'm so glad that Juntos exists and because of Juntos, I have been able to learn for my daughter. "



- Juntos Parent



Transylvania





# Transylvania

## County Highlights



The Juntos 4-H Club was invited to attend the West District Winter Fest, which was held in Waynesville, Haywood County. Three Transylvania Juntos students were able to attend alongside other 4-H youth and their 4-H Agent. The students met the State Student Elected Officers and participated in different activities, including snow tubing. This opportunity for collaboration and networking allowed for Juntos students to experience 4-H and Extension with other youth in attendance.



Transylvania Juntos also brought a variety of guest speakers to their program this year. Guests included the Mayor of Brevard City, Maureen Copelof, who talked to the students about the importance of voting and doing their civic duty. Students also heard from the 4-H Agent, Sarah Holden, and from NC State Work Study students, who spoke about the importance of planning ahead for college.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Resourceful Communities

El Centro Hispano

Conservation Fund

### Partners:

City of Brevard

Transylvania County Schools

Transylvania Extension Office

Brevard College

Blue Ridge Community College

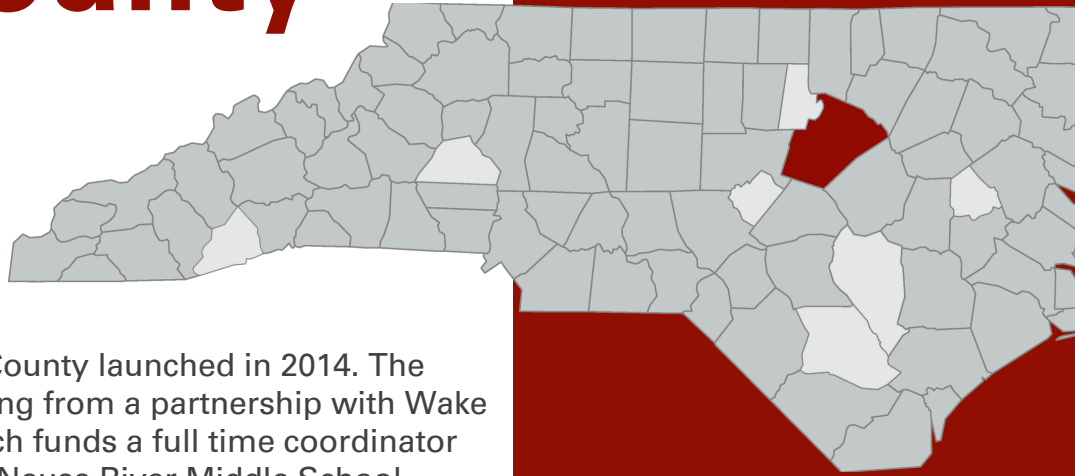
Red Cross of America - Henderson County

Transylvania County Rescue Squad



# Wake County

109 Students Enrolled



The Juntos program in Wake County launched in 2014. The program is supported by funding from a partnership with Wake Tech Community College, which funds a full time coordinator at East Wake High School and Neuse River Middle School, allowing for all four components of Juntos to be facilitated for these schools. The Vernon Malone Business Advisory Committee funds the Family Engagement component of the program at VMCCA, and 4-H Club is facilitated with the assistance of Federal Work Study students from NC State through the State Juntos Program. Knightdale High School's program is brand new and funded through a USDA-NIFA grant provided by the Juntos State office.

## The Juntos Program is implemented in four schools:

- ▶ East Wake High School
- ▶ Neuse River Middle School
- ▶ Knightdale High School
- ▶ Vernon Malone College and Career Academy

33

4-H Meetings  
Held

22

Students Attended  
Summer Academy

31

Family Events  
Held

15

Success Coaching  
Sessions Held

## County Demographics:

Population of 1,190,275

Median income of \$101,763

11.5% of the population  
identifies as Hispanic or Latino

"Juntos has had a big and positive impact on my post secondary education decisions & goals. As a first generation student, it was nerve wrecking and it was difficult to imagine being able to continue my post secondary education. By attending Juntos Summer Academy, I was able to become familiar with NC State and learn about the resources that come with networking"

- Juntos Student

Wake

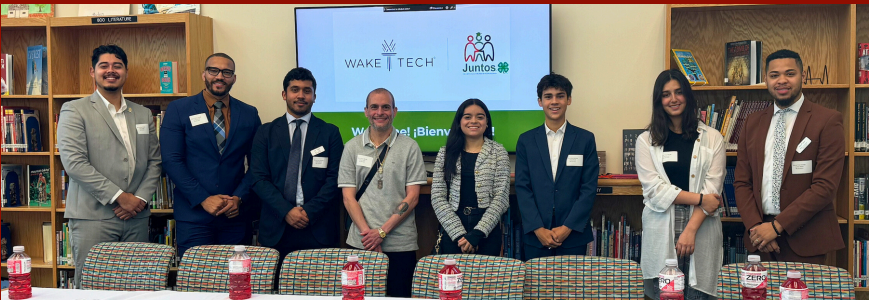




# Wake County Highlights



Students from Vernon Malone College and Career Academy spent several hours at Yates Mill Pond to test the water quality as part of the Yes Resilience curriculum. Students tested the water, explored the park and had a picnic lunch. Afterward, the group stopped at the NCSU Creamery on the way back to school for ice cream. This project allowed students to learn about the quality of water and hypothesize on reasons for the results and possible solutions.



In April 2024, Neuse River Juntos held a Voices of Diversity panel discussion tailored for Hispanic middle school students. Through the narratives and testimonials shared by Juntos alumni, high school and college students, graduates, and professionals in the fields of STEM and agriculture, our students were offered invaluable glimpses into the opportunities that they can pursue in the future.



In April, students from East Wake High School visited the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and the Centro Hispano. Students were shown many opportunities that exist on campus for the Hispanic population. From academic support to cultural enrichment, this experience fostered a sense of belonging and empowerment among the students.

## County Sustainability

### Investors:

Wake Technical Community College

Wake County Schools

VMCCA - Business Advisory Professionals

### Partners:

College Foundation of North Carolina

North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (NCSHPE)

Plant Sciences Initiative

Wake County Extension



# Juntos<sup>®</sup>

FOR A BETTER EDUCATION | PARA UNA MEJOR EDUCACIÓN

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