

FY 24 Impact Report

Benedict College

The Business, Entrepreneurship,
Science and Technology Institute (BEST) at Benedict College

Purpose: foster innovation and educational opportunities related to fields and industries associated with careers in business, entrepreneurship, science, and technology.

June 14, 2024

Activity	Goal	Impact	Budget Spent to date
BEST Institute Information Technology	Acquire some of the latest equipment/technology needed to enhance the learning opportunities provided to students and customers.	The BEST Institute IT department ensures the campus is fully equipped with modern technology with high performance technology, network security and robust network infrastructure designed to meet the College's administrative, academic, research and outreach initiatives. Funds were used to support personnel costs for the CIO, System's Administrator and the IT Helpdesk. Funds were also used to support advanced campus technology to all campus facilities, classroom upgrades, network management, annual renewals, updated digital buildings' floorplans to enhance WIFI Connectivity and performance and wireless connectivity.	\$234,826
BEST Institute – Student Development, Counseling and Self Development and Student Health Initiative.	Funds were budgeted to support the Student Development Counseling and Self Development Services Initiative. This initiative supported the campus health center and counseling department.	While searching to employ a full-time nurse under the BEST Institute's Student Development, Counseling and Student Health activity, the College decided to contract nursing staff for the health center to address the immediate needs of the center. The contracted nursing staff along with the College's nurse assisted with testing for Covid 19. Outside of testing, the contracted nurses triaged, participated in health awareness events, and responded to campus emergency calls.	\$111,772

<p>BEST-Institute _ Office of Professional Development and Lifelong Learning – CPI-SLP – Student Support Services</p>	<p>Direct and coordinate various career-related development services for students to include activities, events, and workshops on campus while establishing business and community partnerships for Benedict College.</p>	<p>The BEST Institute’s Student Support Services is designed to provide opportunities to enhance students personal growth and professional development through their matriculation and career field of choice. Funds were used to support experimental learning initiatives and transportation cost to internship assignments.</p>	<p>\$23,952</p>
<p>Business Entrepreneurship Science and Technology (BEST) Innovation Lab</p>	<p>Benedict College seeks to foster innovation and educational opportunities related to fields and industries associated with careers in business, entrepreneurship, science, and technology.</p>	<p>The BEST Innovation Lab connects students with majors or minors in business, entrepreneurship, science and technology disciplines with industries and businesses through internships, co-ops, and other on-the-job experiences prior to graduation. Funds are currently used to fund the personnel cost for the director of the BEST Innovation Lab.</p>	<p>\$30,550</p>
<p>BEST Scholar's Program</p>	<p>Provide scholarships and financial assistance to students.</p>	<p>The BEST Scholars program is designed to provide successful student academic preparation, exposure and engagement with local and state-wide industry partners, internship placement, and job placement with the South Carolina employment agencies. We are in the process of awarding students for the 2025 academic year. A listing of eligible students was provided by the financial aid office.</p>	<p>\$0</p>

Activity	Goal	Impact	Budget Spent to date
Business and Finance Strengthening Funds Management.	.Supports staff development and training to promote fiscal accountability, enhanced financial reporting, inventory controls and property management.	Funding under the Business and Finance Strengthening Funds Management initiative supported the Business and Finance staff with staff development opportunities, personnel cost for the procurement specialist/staff accountant and SAGE software for inventory control and property management. Staff training is scheduled to enhance job performance and financial reporting. Also, 15% of the senior accountant’s position will be included within the budget from the FY2024 carryover funds.	\$ 10,762
Capital Improvement - Deferred Maintenance.	Provide a safe and secure learning environment for the College’s students, faculty, staff and visitors.	Funds were identified to address the campus deferred maintenance needs under the Capital Improvement activity of the budget. During the year, the HRC facility was identified for the replacement of the roof/concourse. Water intrusion and mold were identified causing major problems to the interior. CHE funding assisted with a portion of the cost to replace the roof/concourse.	\$218,906
Total:			\$630,768