Project Description: Project TLC seeks to prepare teachers of hard-to-staff content areas, who are also equipped to meet the needs of English learners (ELs). Project TLC would involve three cohorts of teacher candidates who complete customized curriculum and professional development in the re-designed UNC Charlotte residency program (Absolute Priority 2) leading to dual licensure in a hard-to-staff subject and K-12 English as a second language (ESL) (Competitive Priority 2). Candidates would be hired at high-need schools with large numbers of ELs, but few teachers who are prepared to work with them (Competitive Priority 4) and would receive two years of induction support. Project TLC has three goals: 1) increase educator diversity in hard-to-staff subjects in high-need schools (Competitive Priority 1); 2) improve the preparation of teacher candidates to meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of ELs (Competitive Priority 3); and 3) retain diverse educators in hard-to-staff subjects in high-need schools.

Project Expected Outcomes: Project outcomes include 1) 36 diverse teacher candidates who complete the residency program and master’s degree and fill 36 teacher vacancies in hard-to-staff subject areas in high-need schools; 2) at least 33 (90%+) dual licensed teachers (content area and K-12 ESL); 3) enhanced teacher intercultural competence and confidence and ability to implement culturally responsive teaching practices; and 4) at least 33 (90%+) teachers who remain teaching in their licensure area at a high-need CMS school for a minimum of three years. Project TLC offers a sustainable and research-informed model for recruiting and retaining diverse teachers who are prepared to teach both content and language.

Project Partners: The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is collaborating with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.