



LITERACYNOW

ADVENTURES IN READING
2022-2023 | IMPACT REPORT



OUR ADVENTURE TO HOLLYWOOD

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DEAREST FRIENDS OF LITERACY NOW,

What an incredible adventure we've experienced these last 16+ years at Making It Better/Literacy Now! Many of you reading this letter have been with us since the beginning, which makes my heart so very happy. And, to those of you who are newer to the Literacy Now family, I am thankful and humbled that you've chosen to join us in this work as we fight to ensure that all our students are reading on grade level.

As you read this Impact Report, you'll get a glimpse into just a few of the adventures we've had during the 2022-23 school year. It was a wild ride as we increased our program delivery staff by 49% and the number of Reading Intervention students by 62%. Yes, there have been some bumps and many lessons along the way! But isn't that part of any adventure? Even with the growing pains we've experienced over the last three years, I am most proud of three things: 1) we have maintained our excellence in instruction, 2) our new employees have adopted the Literacy Now Way and we continue to get very high satisfaction scores on in-depth anonymous employee surveys, and 3) we have steadily increased the number of donors and partners.

Any meaningful adventure requires lots of planning, hard work, flexibility, willingness to step out in faith, a little bit of luck, and a solid team of people working together. I am beyond grateful to report that we've had all of those elements and more in YOU: our volunteers, donors, employees, board members, and partners. As I reflect on our history, I am proud of what we've accomplished together and as I look into the future, I am overflowing with excitement as I envision the thousands of kids and families, we will serve in the years to come.

We absolutely could not be on this grand adventure without each of YOU. Thank you for the trust you place in me and all of us at Literacy Now. Our daily goal is to maintain that trust through excellence in all we do. It is our honor and privilege to serve alongside you!

For the Children,


Jacque

Jacque Daughtry




EXPLORING OUR IMPACT


BY THE NUMBERS 2022-2023




2,614 TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED




1,312 K – 2ND GRADE STUDENTS THROUGH READING INTERVENTION



1,072 PARENTS THROUGH PARENT PARTNERSHIP



132 STUDENTS THROUGH LUNCH BUNCH



98 CHILDREN AND PARENTS THROUGH THE READING EXPRESS

TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICE HOURS:
13,426



250%
AVERAGE INCREASE IN READING SKILLS FOR READING INTERVENTION STUDENTS




1,375 LITERACY KITS DISTRIBUTED




20,450 TOTAL BOOKS DISTRIBUTED



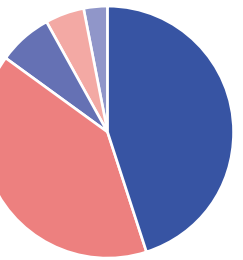
933 VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING **375** HOUSTON READS DAY VOLUNTEERS, DONATED MORE THAN **1,500** HOURS AT A VALUE OF **\$45,293**.




49%
MALE




51%
FEMALE



- 45%** Hispanic
- 40%** African American
- 7%** Other/Mixed
- 5%** Asian
- 3%** White



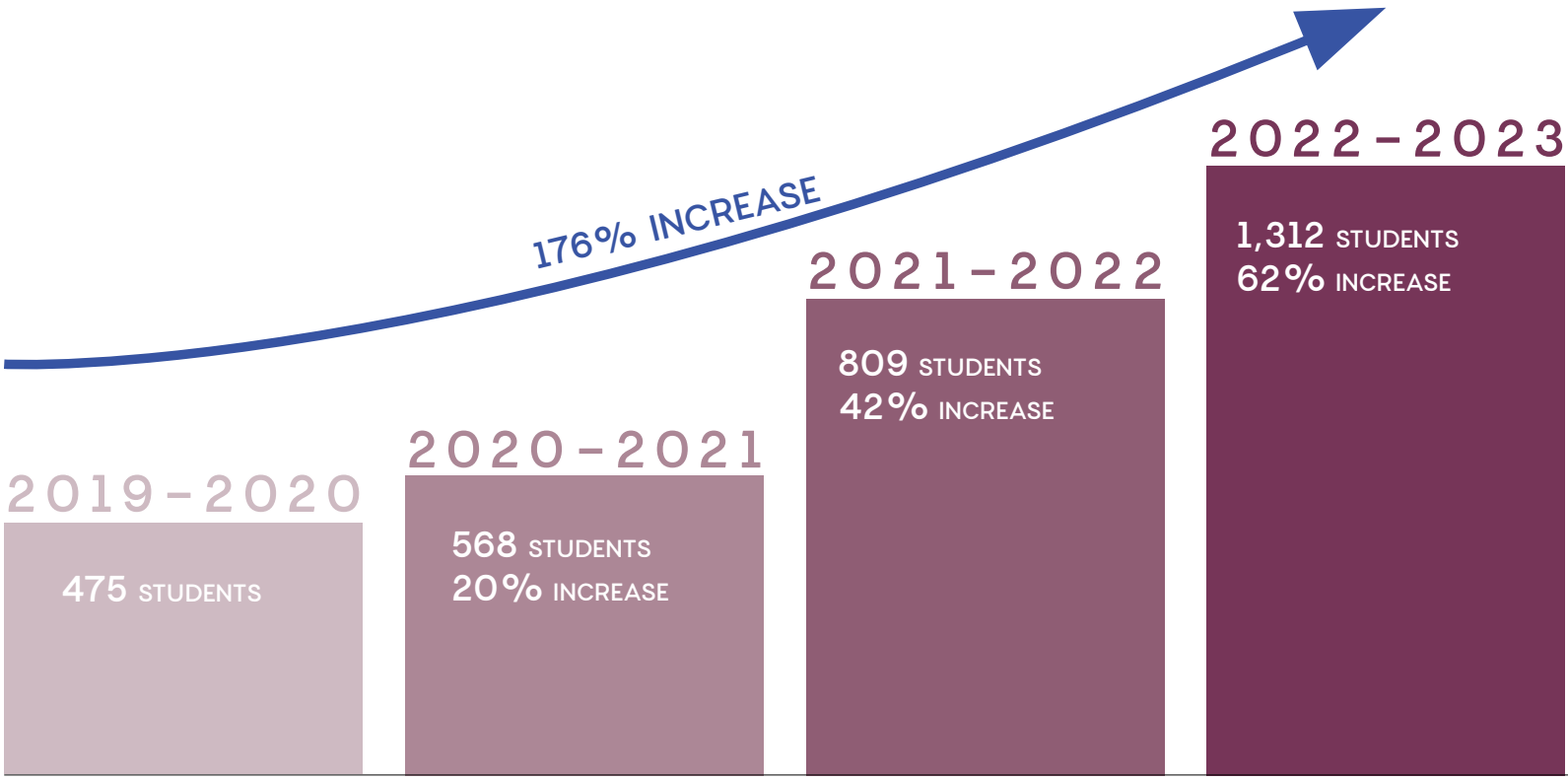
AGES:
2 MONTHS TO 11 YEARS



93%
LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD

EXPEDITION KNOWN

Three years ago, we set out on an expedition to serve more struggling readers that desperately needed our programs. While there were obstacles along the way, we stayed the course and increased the number of students served by an incredible 176% during that time! There were hills and valleys with serving significantly more children, but most importantly, we maintained quality programming and delivered life changing results.





QUEST TO BE THE BEST

Meet **ADAN**, a 1st grader at Jones Primary in Aldine ISD and his Reading Interventionist, Valorie Swain. When we first met Adan, he only knew one lowercase letter and refused to engage with his group, in fact, he would often stand by the door shying away from any interaction. After some encouragement from Ms. Swain, Adan slowly but surely began to join in on the group activities as he knew it was a safe place. It wasn't long before he began to really look forward to coming and was soon reading on grade level. Adan is surely on the right path to be the best version of himself!



READING IS AN ADVENTURE BEST TRAVELED TOGETHER

Meet **THE CAMPBELL FAMILY**, who came to the States all the way from Germany more than six years ago. Upon moving to Houston, Isabelle enrolled her son CJ in our program to help with his reading as he was far behind compared to his American peers. CJ has grown up to be an incredible young man and recently had his own story published through Young Writers USA which, according to Isabelle, is all due to his love for reading that was instilled in him years ago.

Isabelle also found great benefit by helping CJ read the books that we gave him as well as being active in our Parent Engagement program. Isabelle stated, "It really means a lot to me and our family, you not only helped my kids, but you helped me."

Seeing CJ's success, Isabelle enrolled her daughter, Jackie, to take part in the Reading Express as both mother and daughter worked together to get Jackie ready for kindergarten. CJ provided additional support by getting books and reading with her every chance he got.

OPENING UP A WHOLE NEW WORLD

WILLIAM, a shy 1st grade student at Neff Early Learning Center, mainly kept to himself before joining our Reading Intervention program this fall. But, after only two weeks of fun, interactive lessons, his mom said he waited excitedly for his reading intervention class. He now loves to read stories with dinosaurs, trains and anything that is nature related. William even made a new friend in his small group. His mother expressed her gratitude to the interventionist as William's confidence has risen!



AN AMAZING JOURNEY

If you met **MIAH** at the beginning of the school year you would notice that this 1st grader from Ogden Elementary School was a sweet yet very timid and quiet young lady. Fast forward 25 weeks later, Miah has blossomed into a confident child with an outgoing personality. Her journey started when she came to our Reading Intervention program struggling to even read basic foundational words which caused her to avoid her peers and keep to herself. Throughout the program, our staff worked with Miah to not only build her reading skills but to build her self-esteem and praise her every step of the way. We know that Miah is well equipped to excel in whatever journey comes next.



OUR GUIDING LIGHT

As we continue to serve struggling readers and their families throughout Houston, we have created the following model to guide us to excellence in all things.



RELATIONSHIPS
PARTNERSHIPS
ACCESS
INTEGRITY
STEWARDSHIP
ACCOUNTABILITY
EXCELLENCE

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Continual evaluation of systems, processes, and practices to ensure excellence in all areas.

QUALITY PROGRAMS

Develop and deliver effective and efficient data driven programming with our students’ evolving needs in mind.

GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY

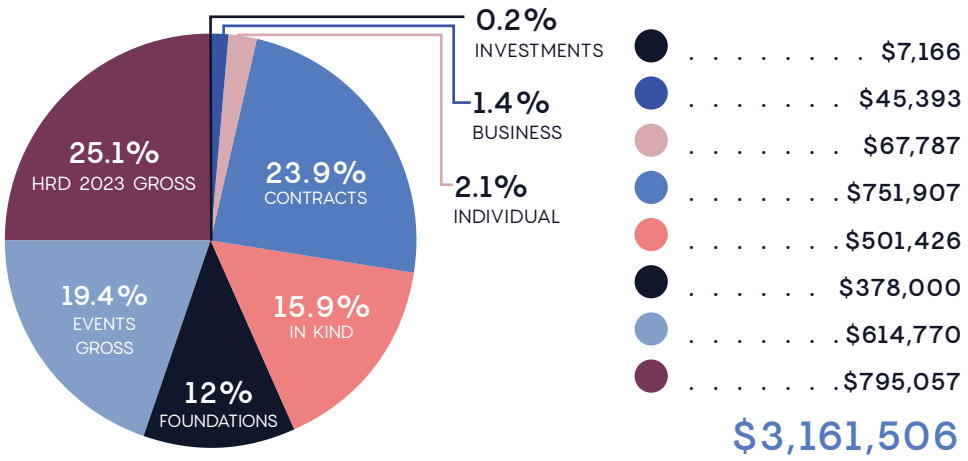
Pursue sustainable growth opportunities with an emphasis on expanding our reach and impact.

VISION

For every child to read on grade level.

FINANCIALS

INCOME SUMMARY 2022-2023



MAJOR SUPPORTERS

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Laura & John Arnold | Mignon & Steve Gill | PJ Malsbary | Elizabeth & Richard Schmidt |
| Julia & Jody Batdorf | Ronna & Robert Harris | Mekala Kathurvel & Deepak | Seyfarth Shaw LLP |
| BCCK | Suzanne Harter | Manoharan | Niti & Sanjiv Shah |
| Boyar Miller | H-E-B | Dave Marchese | Jonathan Sloan |
| Bob Bunch | Hines Interests Limited | Sandra McDowell | Stellar Bank |
| Cadence Bank | Partnership | Brooke Meinkowsky | Texas Mutual Insurance Company |
| Claudette Callebs | Bhakti & Monsterville Horton | Patti Melcher | The Craig Group |
| Miguel Castillo | Renee & George Humphrey | Deviyani Misra-Godwin & | The Houston Foundation |
| Anna & Fred Charlton | District #4 c/o Energy | Gareth Mugeli | Trammell Crow Company LLC |
| Nisha Desai & Alan Clark | Corridor District | Nine Energy | Universal Television, LLC |
| Community Health Choice/ | Sis & Hasty Johnson | NOV | Vinson & Elkins LLP |
| Harris Health System | Vanee & Steve Kesten | NuLine Industrial Solutions, LLC | AnnaLee & Andy Waite |
| Corey Construction | Kirkland & Ellis | Piper Sandler | BJ Walker |
| Jacque & Mike Daughtry | Lynne Larson & Bret Pardue | Denise & Kevin Poynter | Wells Fargo Private Bank |
| Philana & Francisco Diaz | Karla & Paul LeBlanc | Shalla Prichard | White Deer Management LLC |
| Fifth Third Bank | Locke Lord | Rebecca & Dudley Ray | Woodforest National Bank |
| Gilbert & Pardue LLC | | Riveron Holdings LP | |

SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE FOUNDATIONS AND COMPANIES FOR MAKING A MAJOR DIFFERENCE



MISSION POSSIBLE (WITH YOUR HELP!)

\$10K	Helps support the cost of program materials and supplies for our Reading Intervention program
\$5K	Helps support the salary of one Reading Interventionist
\$2.5K	Helps provide materials and supplies for three Parent Engagement Workshops
\$1K	Helps sponsor one child in the Reading Intervention program
\$500	Provides materials, supplies and volunteer training for the Lunch Bunch mentoring program
\$250	Provides materials and supplies for The Reading Express mobile classroom
\$100	Provides 30 books to be distributed to children
\$50	Helps provide supplies and materials for take home backpacks
\$25	Provides literacy enrichment activity supplies

DONATE:

- ☒ BY MAIL:
14781 Memorial Dr. #25, Houston, TX 77079
-  ONLINE:
literacynowhouston.org

save the date

10.21.23

LITERACY NOW 15TH ANNUAL

MAGNUMS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

an unforgettable wine dinner

HELPING US EMPOWER KIDS THROUGH READING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 6:30PM

THE ST. REGIS HOUSTON

honoring

stellar BANK™

event chairs


STACY & GREG DAVIS

sponsorships & tickets

LITERACYNOWHOUSTON.ORG

 LITERACYNOW

BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE NOW

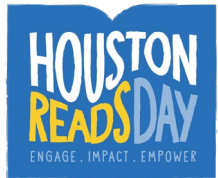


GIVING TUESDAY

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November 28, 2023

Make a difference by supporting our Reading Intervention program on this global day of giving.




HOUSTON READS DAY

ENGAGE . IMPACT . EMPOWER

4TH ANNUAL HOUSTON READS DAY

March 1, 2024

Join more than 400 volunteers in reading to over 14,000 Pre-K through third graders to raise awareness about the literacy crisis in our city and to sustain and support our expansion plan.



LITERACYNOW GUILD

10TH ANNUAL GUILD LUNCHEON

Friday, May 3, 2024, at the Junior League of Houston

CONNECT WITH US:



LITERACYNOWHOUSTON.ORG

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Lunch Bunch Mentor (October – April)
- The Reading Express (October – May)
- Group Storytime (October – April)
- Houston Reads Day (March 1, 2024)

ONGOING

- Story Swap Libraries
- Administrative Projects
- Book Sorting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022–2023

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Jessica Faith Carter, PhD.

Senior Specialist, Partnerships at EdReports

Jasmine Castleberry

Chief Executive Officer, The Afterschool Professional

Fred Charlton

Managing Director, Chairman and Head of Energy Investment Banking, Simmons Energy

Giselle Greenwood

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Owner, Monsterville's Wines

Paul Leblanc Jr.

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Dale Lockett

Director of Local Programming & Community Marketing, KHOU-TV

Deepak Manoharan

Managing Director, Accenture

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Global HR Support & Managed Services Director, AWS at Amazon

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Outside Board Representative, Junior League of Houston

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