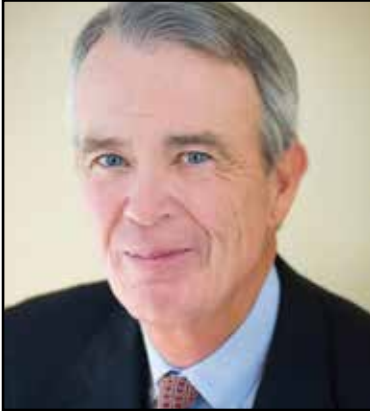




2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



A Message From our Chairman



Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year, we're celebrating a historic milestone – and it's all thanks to you.

For the third year in a row, the **School District of Indian River County has earned an "A" rating**, and for the first time, our district is ranked **5th in the state of Florida** out of 67 school districts - up from 38th in 2019. But what truly makes this moment extraordinary?

Indian River County is now **tied for 2nd place in Florida** for Third Grade Reading Achievement. Vero Beach Elementary, the Moonshot School, has **moved from 38% to 71%** of its third grade students reading at grade level in just three years. **Two schools achieved 89% and 91%** of their third graders reading on grade level, proving that our aspirational goal of having 90% of students reading proficiently is attainable.

These statistics reflect years of hard work, deep community collaboration, and your unwavering belief in the power of early literacy. Together, we're showing the state and the nation what's possible when a community invests in its children.

To our supporters – thank you. Your generosity has fueled innovative programs, empowered educators, and helped create a culture of possibility across our schools. But the work is far from over. We must continue to ensure that every school and every student in Indian River County has the support they need to thrive. With your ongoing partnership, we can close the remaining gaps and build on this momentum.

And this year, something special is happening. A new **10-part documentary series**, *The Moonshot Series*, produced by the Children's Literacy Project, tells the inspiring story of how Indian River County is tackling the literacy crisis head-on. It captures how a once-struggling school district is becoming a national model for what's possible when public and private partners unite behind a bold, shared mission. At the heart of this story is the groundbreaking partnership between The Learning Alliance and the School District of Indian River County – a partnership powered by your support.

We look forward to sharing this series with our community, stakeholders, and, most importantly, our families. *The Moonshot Series* will serve as a powerful tool to sustain and scale this work, inspire others, and ensure that this movement continues to grow.

Thank you for standing with us. Your commitment is turning the Moonshot Goal into a reality – one student, one school, one milestone at a time.

With deep gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ray Oglethorpe', written in a cursive style.

Ray Oglethorpe

EARLY LITERACY BLUEPRINT

Mission: to transform our community's future and become a model for the nation by creating a culture in which 90% of our children read on grade level by the end of third grade.

Vision: for our children to become literate, compassionate, creative citizens who will improve our world.

The Learning Alliance helps children read. As a nonprofit started by parents, educators, and business leaders, we support our community in reaching the Moonshot Goal of 90% of students reading on grade-level by the end of 3rd-grade.

We fund positions and lead Moonshot programs in four areas:



“This year, we have seen the incredible power of a community united by a single goal. It’s a model for what is possible when parents, educators, and community members come together in support of a shared commitment to literacy. Our district being tied for 2nd in Florida for third grade reading is a powerful milestone in building a brighter future for every student in our community.”

— Barbara Hammond, CEO and Co-Founder

IMPACT 2024-2025

Current Year Accomplishments:

- Indian River County is now tied for **2nd place in Florida for Third Grade Reading Achievement**
- The School District of Indian River County has earned an **“A” rating for the third year in a row**
- **Top 5 District in Florida** out of 67 school districts, up from 38th in 2018-2019
- All SDIRC schools **earned an “A” or “B,”** with zero non-charters declining in performance
- **16 “A” rated schools**, up from just 4 in 2018
- Beachland Elementary **achieved 91%** in 3rd-grade reading
- Liberty Magnet **achieved 89%** in 3rd-grade reading

Moonshot School Recognition:

- Vero Beach Elementary, the Moonshot School, achieved a 33-point gain in reading from 2022 to 2025, **moving from 38% to 71%** of 3rd-grade students reading on grade level

By The Numbers:

- **Served 4,500** K-3rd grade students with programming to improve reading outcomes
- **Supported 450** Pre-K students and 115 early childhood educators with a Prevention Intervention Coach and Behavior Technician during the academic school year
- **Provided 500+** families with language-rich activities to build early literacy skills
- **Supported 350** educators with training and coaching in the Science of Reading
- **Distributed 5,500 books and 800 learning kits** to support early literacy development



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

because children and communities thrive when literacy is a community priority



officials have proclaimed their municipalities “Moonshot Communities.” This declaration sends a powerful message that our local leaders are committed to improving early literacy in Indian River County.

- **Moonshot Reading Captains:** Our network of more than 45 Moonshot Reading Captains is championing literacy in our community. By empowering these trusted community members, we ensure that the families of our youngest learners receive the support they need to build a strong foundation for reading success.

For over a decade, The Learning Alliance has been Indian River County’s backbone organization, uniting our community around the Moonshot Goal. Literacy is everyone’s business, and schools can’t do it alone. In Indian River County, government officials and community leaders actively support this mission through various initiatives.

- **Moonshot Community Action Network (MCAN):** This powerful collective of more than 100 members works to identify needs and mobilize resources to address the literacy crisis in Indian River County.
- **Community Awareness and Action Campaigns:** Our “Moonshot Goal” is a community-wide effort, and public

“When literacy is a community promise, children thrive. Together, we hold the Moonshot goal, because schools can’t do it alone. That’s the Moonshot way.”

**— Marie O’Brien,
Director of Advocacy &
External Relations,
The Learning Alliance**



FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS

to strengthen parents as their child's first teacher

Every child deserves the opportunity to thrive from the very beginning. Because literacy starts at birth, our mission is to equip families with the tools and resources to champion their child's learning journey. Through innovative programs, we strive to build a strong foundation for lifelong learning and success.

- **Moonshot Families' Connection Specialists** build trusted relationships with families in underserved communities, empowering parents to be their child's first and most important teacher.
- **Our Early Literacy Programming** provides children books and learning kits, containing activities that build key skills to ensure children are ready for kindergarten.
- **The Moonshot Reading Rocket** delivers joy and free books throughout the community. The magic of the Rocket actively engages children and families, inspiring a love of reading.
- **The Lullaby Program**, a partnership with the Carnegie Hall Weill Music Institute, guides families in creating personalized lullabies and language-rich routines, strengthening connections while actively fostering critical early language development.
- **The Basics** workshops empower parents and caregivers to promote early brain development and ensure children from birth to age five have a strong foundation for lifelong learning.



“Science shows 90% of a child’s brain develops by age five. We support families during these critical years with our programming to strengthen parents as their child’s first teacher.”

**– Sue Curtis,
Educational Specialist &
The Basics Facilitator,
The Learning Alliance**



EDUCATOR COACHING & TRAINING

to ensure children have great teachers

The research is clear - when ongoing coaching accompanies professional learning, the positive impact on classroom instruction is 3.6 times greater than from training alone.

Source: Joyce, B. and Showers, B.

The Learning Alliance's learning-to-practice model builds teachers' knowledge of the Science of Reading and provides coaching to ensure teachers have the ongoing support they need.

- **Literacy Coaches** provide personalized support on every campus to over 350 K-2 educators, ensuring every teacher can deliver excellent instruction.
- **Prevention Intervention Specialists** support Pre-K teachers throughout the district and the 450 students in their charge. This support is critical in helping students meet developmental milestones to be ready for kindergarten.
- **District-Wide Instructional Specialists** provide year-round professional learning to all 13 elementary schools and over 350 educators, so they can provide the most effective literacy support for their students.



“Research tells us that an effective teacher is considered the most important school-based factor in student achievement. That is why we invest in our educators, providing the coaching and training needed to accelerate student outcomes.”

**— Liz Remington,
Chief Academic Officer,
The Learning Alliance**



AFTERSCHOOL & SUMMER TUTORING to catch kids up



- **K-3 Interventionists** provide daily, intensive small-group reading instruction to over 600 students in all 13 elementary schools to close learning gaps.
- **Literacy on the Lagoon**, our summer program in partnership with the Environmental Learning Center, provides hands-on experiences while enhancing literacy skills and fostering a love of reading.

“Moonshot Academy is a proven program that has been improving reading outcomes for more than a decade. In 2024-2025, Moonshot Academy students experienced 117% more reading growth than their peers.”

**— Liz Bahl, COO,
The Learning Alliance**

The Learning Alliance delivers high-quality literacy instruction, offering students extra support during the summer, after school, and in school. This well-structured, extra time closes learning gaps to achieve reading success.

- **Moonshot Academy**, our after school and summer program, serves 650 1st - 3rd-grade students across nine elementary schools. Through direct, explicit reading instruction coupled with enriched literacy activities, Moonshot Academy students achieve at least 50% more reading growth than their peers.



THE MOONSHOT SCHOOL: A HUB OF INNOVATION

Launched in 2023, the Moonshot School at Vero Beach Elementary is dedicated to implementing instructional excellence. By prioritizing the Science of Reading and expert instruction, this Title 1 school has dramatically improved student outcomes, moving from 38% to 71% of 3rd graders reading on grade level in just 3 years.

- **Literacy Coaches** in each grade level build a pipeline of teacher talent and ensure sustained instructional quality.
- **Arts and Literacy Integration** engages students with a rich, robust curriculum to deepen learning and comprehension.
- **Extended Learning Interventions** are provided in school, after school, and over the summer for struggling readers.
- **Performance-Based Incentives** cultivate educator growth and expertise through micro-credentials and badging.
- **Moonshot Summer Institute** is an immersive training on the Science of Reading, equipping educators with research-based knowledge.
- **Extended Collaborative Planning** allows teachers extra time to align curriculum and craft high-quality, engaging lessons together.
- **Demonstration Classrooms** model effective instruction and best practices, offering educators a clear example from which to learn.

“The Moonshot School is a place where anything is possible. We are not just dreamers - we are doers! Through evidence-based practices, and a culture of learning and growing, we have moved from a “C” to an “A” in just three years, proving that 90% can be a reality!”

**– Sarah Van Brimmer,
Moonshot School
Principal**



MOONSHOT LEGACY SOCIETY

The Moonshot Legacy Society, established in 2023, honors those who commit to securing the future success of The Learning Alliance (TLA). By including TLA in your estate plans, your legacy gift becomes a powerful, lasting investment that ensures our mission and the Moonshot Goal continue to transform children's lives through literacy for generations to come.

To learn more about becoming a member of the Moonshot Legacy Society, please contact:

Texa Gaya

Director of Development

(772) 643-4390

tgaya@thelearningalliance.org

“When I hear about the dismal results nationally in elementary school reading, I am so gratified that here in Indian River County, our school district, with The Learning Alliance, are making real progress. Now, tied for 2nd in the state for third grade reading achievement, with 71% of students reading on grade level, we are getting closer to our 90% goal. I know our donations are making a huge difference to help local children get on a successful path. Keep up the good work!”

**— Susan Oglesby,
Legacy Society Member**

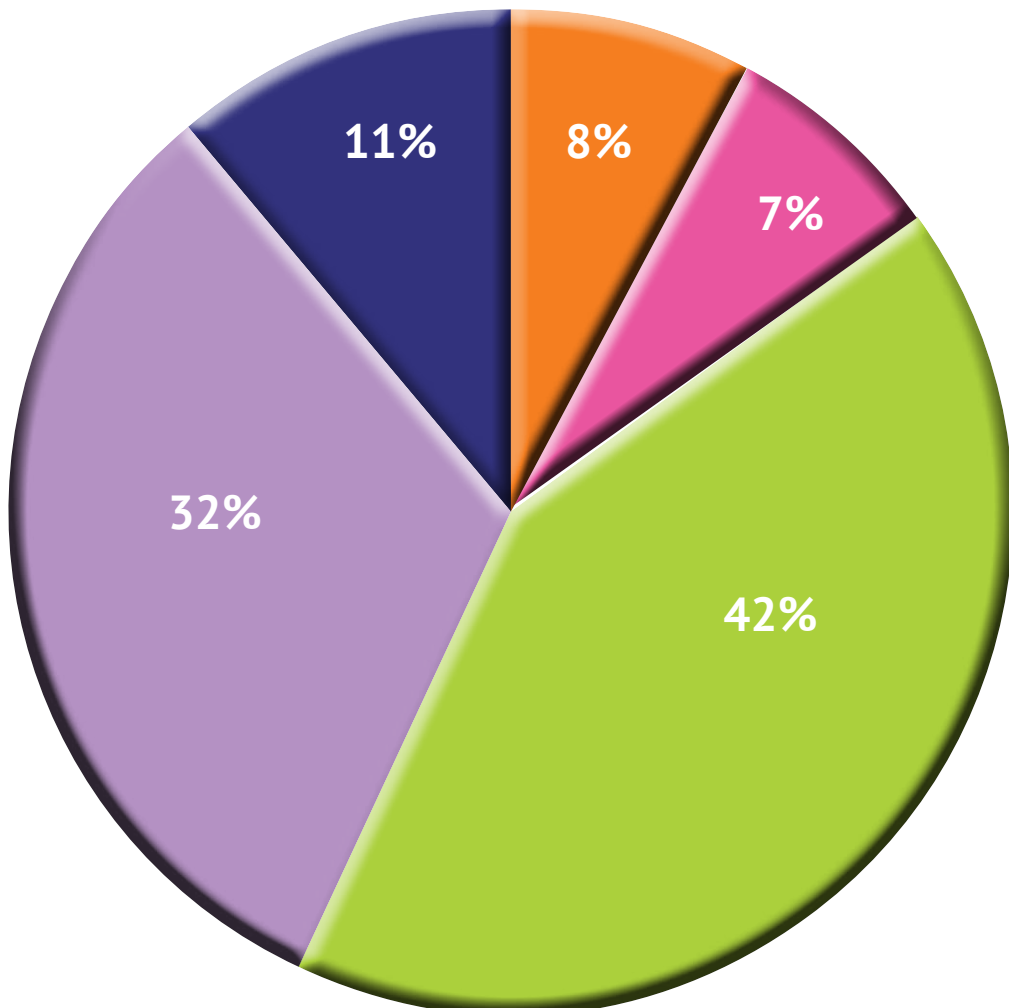
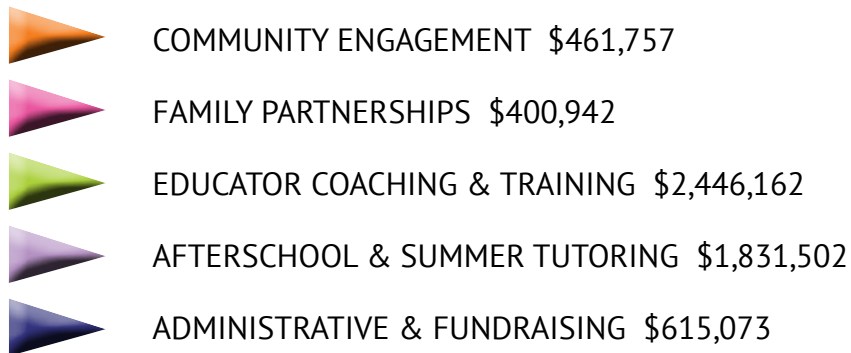


2024-2025 FINANCIALS

Actual Financials \$5,755,436

Audited financials will be available November 2025

The totals reflect program costs plus salary allocations.



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Our warmest thanks to our investors who have shown extraordinary support to The Learning Alliance during the 2025 fiscal year.

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Raymond Oglethorpe, Chairman	Liz Remington, ex officio
Deborah Peniston	

THE LEARNING ALLIANCE FOUNDATION, INC

The Foundation Board invests with purpose, aiming for steady growth and income that help sustain and strengthen the work of The Learning Alliance year after year.

Ray Oglethorpe, President
Andrew Sowers, Treasurer
Frank Spitzmiller, Secretary
Paul Becker (in memoriam)
Elbridge Gerry
Barbara Hammond
Michael White



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

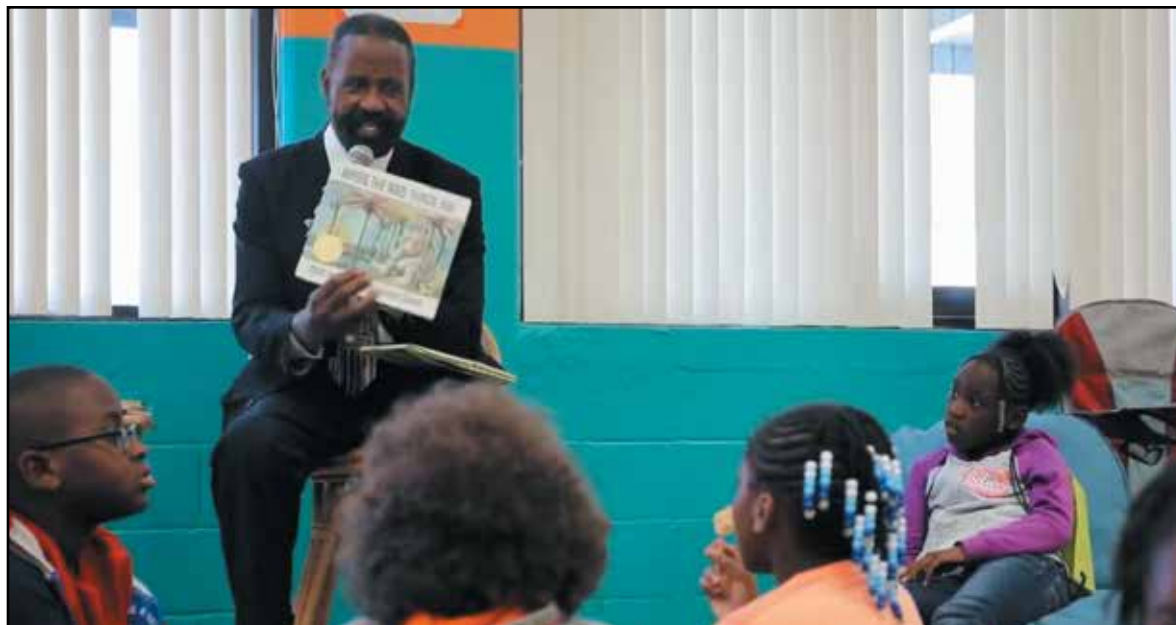
Together, we can drive meaningful change and make a lasting difference in the lives of children. We invite you to get involved and help us achieve our mission and vision for a brighter, more literate future!

Make a gift: Your contribution can profoundly impact a child's future, unlocking doors to endless opportunities and fostering a love of reading that can last a lifetime. Every gift helps us reach our goal of 90% reading proficiency by the end of third grade. Please visit TheLearningAlliance.org/donate to make a gift.



Volunteer: Your time and dedication are invaluable and play a crucial role in supporting our students and enhancing our programs. Get trained to offer one-on-one support to kindergarten students, join us in assembling kits with books and educational materials for children and their families, or help at one of the many community events our Moonshot Rocket attends. Please visit TheLearningAlliance.org/volunteer.

Share our message: Help us build a stronger, more informed community. Share The Learning Alliance's commitment to improving childhood literacy with friends and community members. By encouraging others to embrace and support the power of reading and education, we create a more informed and connected community.





The Learning Alliance • P.O. Box 2647 • Vero Beach, FL 32961

877-548-READ (7323) • TheLearningAlliance.org

The Learning Alliance is a 501(c)(3) organization