

# '21 ANNUAL REPORT



National Center for  
Families Learning



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# Mission and Vision

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It's an exciting time at the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) as our team welcomes new leadership and finds innovative ways to best serve children and families with education solutions that are responsive to our changing world. This past year we've reaffirmed the importance of our organization's mission as the foundation for our work. Over the past few months our team has further defined an ambitious vision with strategic goals and priorities that will shape our direction over the next decade.

**Mission:** NCFL works to eradicate poverty through education solutions for families.

**Vision:** By 2030, coordinated and aligned family learning systems are established in 60 communities, built with and for families, to increase education and economic outcomes, thereby creating more equitable communities.

In 2021, NCFL's team carried out a comprehensive strategic planning process. The strategic pillars below reflect the key priorities in which NCFL's team will advance the organization's mission and vision.

## An Inclusive and Diverse Organization



Since its inception, NCFL has prioritized equity in its work by developing and scaling family-focused educational strategies that match intensity and duration with level of need. Looking ahead, we want to embed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) principles into every aspect of our work, internally and externally, with concrete measurement tools.

## Innovative and Inclusive Education Programming



NCFL envisions continuing its powerful legacy of scaling multi-generational programming and aspires to become a national leader in both program co-design and virtual learning.

## Strategic, Diverse Revenue Streams



As NCFL looks to the future, we seek to continually diversify our revenue streams to ensure success and sustainability among community partners adopting our multi-generational approaches.

## Strategic Policy & Advocacy



NCFL has a rich history of strong advocacy on behalf of low-income children and families, and we envision continuing those efforts over the next three years. We seek to remain a leader in advocacy for family learning federal legislation and serve as a national model for programming to ensure embedding of family-friendly policies throughout our government systems.

## Transparent and Efficient Systems



We envision a future where NCFL enhances its internal infrastructure and operations to improve upon our processes, workflow, and employee satisfaction.

# Passing of the Torch

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Dear NCFL Family,

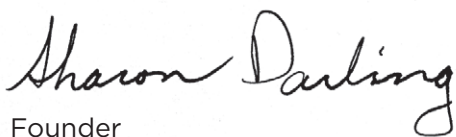
Reflecting on 32 years as the leader of NCFL has led me to a place of tremendous gratitude. NCFL's network of families, staff and board members, partners, and funders has been a significant and meaningful part of my daily life. From visiting communities in rural Appalachia to the hearts of our largest cities, it has been the honor of my life to meet and learn from so many dedicated mothers, fathers, caregivers, teachers, grandparents, and children. The stories of multigenerational impact will reverberate in my soul across time. In retirement, I plan to seek new adventures through travel and spending quality time with friends and family.

With an eye toward the future, I recognize the organization could not be in better or more capable hands under Dr. Felicia Cumings Smith's leadership. The NCFL Board's commitment to a national search was the right move in order to find the best next President for NCFL. Dr. Smith has accrued so many noteworthy accomplishments over the course of her career working alongside students on family literacy and engagement initiatives across local, state, and national levels in both the public and private sectors. She has been a friend and longtime advocate for NCFL. She joins NCFL as a former educator and school administrator. After holding key leadership roles at National Geographic Society, the Kentucky Department of Education, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, she has found her way back to non profit leadership. The combination of her skills, expertise, and energy will bring a fresh, new perspective to what the organization needs for decades to come.

In closing, I am looking forward to serving the organization in the role of board member. I am passionate, confident, and excited about NCFL's future and the impact the organization will have working side-by-side with families and partners. I want to thank the NCFL Board of Directors, broader community, and staff for touching my heart and joining me on this 32-year-long journey to transform the fields of family literacy, adult education and learning, and the outcomes for children living in poverty.

Sincerely,

Sharon Darling

  
Founder

# President's Letter

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Dear NCFL Family,

I am honored to be joining NCFL as its new leader. We all owe Sharon an immense amount of gratitude and respect for her decades of service to lead, bolster, and uplift family literacy and family engagement efforts across the country. Her work over 32 years has impacted millions of children and families through multigenerational programming—programming aimed to increase equity and opportunity through education solutions. I enter this work humbled by the chance to build upon her legacy and elevate NCFL to the next level.

The future of learning is with families in communities. As the pandemic has shown us, learning must extend beyond school walls and must be designed to bring about more equitable outcomes for children, families, and communities. The stories shared in this year's annual report provide evidence of NCFL's ability to pivot quickly and respond to the changing needs of children, parenting adults, and families who are still grappling with the devastating impact of the pandemic on learning, health and well-being, and economic prosperity. NCFL, in concert with local organizations, has continuously evolved to meet the demands of current times. This spirit of innovation is evident in our 2021 pilot projects and programming designed to create new learning spaces that infuse current trends and the pressing needs of families and communities.

I am deeply committed to expanding NCFL's role in the field. Our vision moving forward is to connect all of our programs to design a more comprehensive approach to family learning. A coordinated and aligned Family Learning System addressing family literacy, family engagement, and family leadership is the blueprint for building capacity, affirming equity, and supporting thriving communities. By 2030, we intend to establish aligned and coordinated Family Learning Systems in 60 communities. I believe this bold vision brings us closer to achieving equitable communities where children and families feel valued, are networked for gaining social capital, and participate in a more fair and just society. I hope you'll join us in our 60x30 Campaign for advancing Family Learning Systems across the country.

Sincerely,

Dr. Felicia C. Smith

*Felicia C. Smith*  
President

# Family Literacy & Learning

## Family and Child Education (FACE) Program

NCFL has amassed more than three decades of impact for families alongside the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) in delivering high quality family literacy programming and technical assistance through the Bureau's FACE initiative. NCFL's leadership in FACE works to ensure that students enter kindergarten academically, socially, and emotionally prepared to succeed in school, which are key milestones in any child's education continuum. In 2021, the FACE program experienced tremendous growth and continuous improvement despite challenges brought on by the pandemic. Key highlights include:

**In one district, kindergarten students that attended FACE scored above the district average in reading 62% of the time and 51% of the time in math. (source: 2020 MAP scores)**

Expansion to four new schools, with future plans for adding six additional sites next year. In 2022, NCFL will lead family literacy across a portfolio of 51 BIE schools.

The successful rollout of Teaching Strategies (TS) GOLD as a new online assessment tool that considers the whole child and is backed by child development research. The objectives in TS GOLD are aligned with the BIE Standards.

NCFL launched several new resources available to all FACE sites including the Learning Outside of School Toolkit, Recruitment and Retention Toolkit, and numerous web-based professional development opportunities.

## 2021 Statewide Family Engagement Center (SFEC) Highlights



**20** program partners



**27** districts served



**416** family literacy, family engagement, and family leadership activities



**907** children impacted



**45,512** books distributed



**917** families impacted

*\*Summary data reflects programming across the states of Arizona, Nebraska, Kentucky and Maryland.*



## Arizona Statewide Family Engagement Center (SFEC)

NCFL impacts statewide efforts in Arizona through leadership of its SFEC. The SFEC provides strategic, systemic support for parents across the state through partnerships with nine public school districts, two community organizations, the Unite for Literacy book program, Make Way for Books, Read on Arizona, and the Arizona Department of Education. Collectively, in 2021, over 500 high-impact activities were supported through the Arizona SFEC and its partners, and over 29,000 books were distributed to families to build their home libraries and support a lifelong habit of reading.

The SFEC's strong foundational programming has supported a positive transition for families in light of the pandemic's impacts over the past two years. Evaluation feedback shows that parents learned technology skills that "paid off" when their children had to learn from home during the pandemic; specifically, being able to participate in distance learning, gaining the skills to understand and use online platforms and other technology applications. Families reported being able to help their children as well as support other parents during this challenging time.

The Arizona SFEC ensures that parents are trained and can effectively engage in activities that will improve student academic achievement, strengthen understanding of how they can support learning in the classroom with activities at home or outside the school, and increase their participation in community decision-making processes. As a result of NCFL's statewide coordinated approach, parents and families receiving SFEC services report an enhanced capacity to work with schools and service providers effectively to meet their children's developmental and educational needs.





## Nebraska SFEC



NCFL's leadership of the Nebraska SFEC is building a systematic, high-impact statewide infrastructure of family engagement to improve student development and raise academic achievement. The SFEC fosters family literacy and promotes positive educational choices for underserved families through evidence-based literacy strategies and parent education. A comprehensive, statewide professional development system is increasing the capacity of all community stakeholders to implement cradle-to-career family engagement services and family-school partnerships.

This initiative emphasizes intentional collaboration by establishing a robust statewide continuum of evidence-based family literacy and engagement programming driven by NCFL, effective partnerships with families, the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCFF), the Nebraska Department of Education, Unite for Literacy, and targeted school districts across Nebraska.

In 2021, family literacy programs were implemented in 13 elementary and middle schools across Nebraska. On average, parents spent over ten hours a week participating in adult education and parenting classes as well as participating in Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time®, working with their children to meet the challenges of remote learning. Parents across the state also exercised leadership through engagement in CAFE (Community and Family Engagement) activities and representation on the SFEC State Advisory Board. Despite pandemic challenges impacting families and educators, Nebraska SFEC parents were meaningfully involved in their children's education. The SFEC continues to strengthen home-school relationships, parents' effectiveness in their role in children's learning, and home literacy environments.



## Maryland and Kentucky SFECs



In addition to its leadership in Arizona and Nebraska, NCFL is proud to be a partner of the Kentucky Collaborative for Families and Schools, a network of families, schools, districts, and community partners focused on increasing open communication, learning opportunities, and shared decision-making power across the Kentucky SFEC. In Maryland, NCFL collaborates with the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium to support its SFEC impacting families and partners in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

A Maryland-based educator taking part in the Maryland SFEC talks about how family literacy programming has successfully supported parent engagement and confidence during COVID-19:



*This year has been tough on families and teachers alike. The community of school has changed very much due to COVID. This year [with] the amount of family-school contact needed, I was certain many families would be put at a disadvantage due to communication barriers. However, our English language learner families from last year's program and the current year are the best communicators in my class. They have also served as community supports with families that are not in the family literacy program. For example, I saw a parent at pre-k registration. This parent never used to come into the building without an interpreter, she was fearful of the school but had so many questions about her special needs child and her schooling. This time, that parent was in the building because she was helping a new community member register a child for school! The confidence and purpose this parent presented was so powerful. She was there helping her community and supporting our school, something she was not comfortable doing three years ago.*



## National SFEC Network



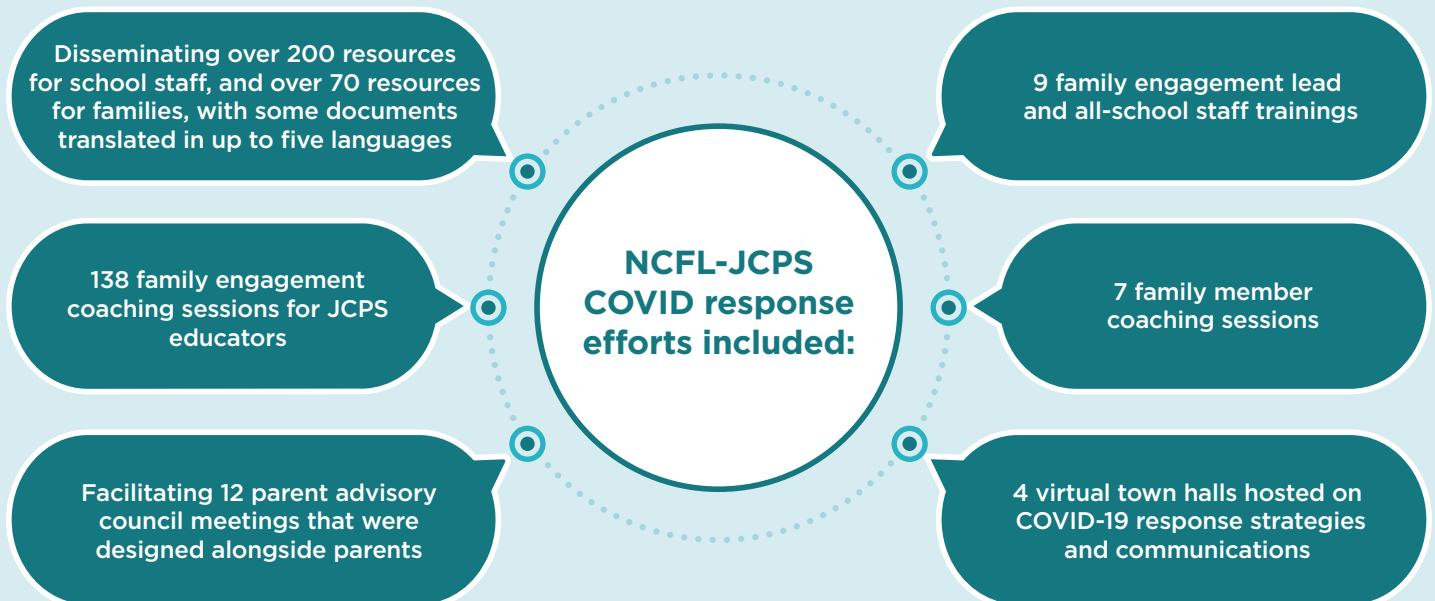
NCFL is a prominent voice in the national education conversation through its co-leadership of the SFEC Network with its partner the National Association for Family, School, and Community Leadership. Launched in 2019 with seed funding from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, this national community of practice advances public discourse around family engagement that spans from practice to policy recommendations. Membership includes an impressive group of practitioners hailing from twelve states and implementing U.S. Department of Education SFECs to create effective family engagement systems that support academic achievement and student improvement from cradle to career. NCFL contributes its experiences and expertise leading SFECs in both Arizona and Nebraska while providing training and technical assistance to SFECs in Kentucky and Maryland. Network members convene monthly for virtual learning opportunities promoting collaboration and knowledge-sharing among states. The NCFL-hosted SFEC Network website ([sfecnetwork.org](https://sfecnetwork.org)) spotlights member initiatives, and news and resources are distributed to 1,000 recipients through a monthly newsletter. SFECs are funded for five years by competitive grants from the U.S. Department of Education.

# Family Engagement

## Jefferson County Public Schools

NCFL continues to build upon its multi-year engagement with Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) in Louisville, Kentucky, operationalizing a dual capacity-building approach that serves as a model for the country for developing strong bridges between families, schools, and the larger community. NCFL provides comprehensive services through professional development, coaching, and overall district support, creating a continuum of multigenerational strategies that elevate the voices of families and students. Throughout the first year of the pandemic, NCFL played an essential role supporting JCPS staff in responding to the changes caused by COVID-19. This work focused on reaching and engaging with families when schools switched to a fully remote environment. Having developed deep relationships with both JCPS personnel and JCPS families, the team convened town halls and distributed learning resources and information quickly and effectively. NCFL turned to JCPS school-based parent leaders—trusted messengers in their communities—during a time of confusion and dramatic disruption.

The 2020–2021 school year was an abrupt end to the traditional way the nation’s students learn—forcing public education to reimagine new ways to connect with children, youth, and their families. NCFL continues to be an instrumental partner in supporting the success of JCPS staff, students, and families. School administrators and educators across the district have gained new capacities in working with families and toward more equitable outcomes.



“

*We are so grateful for our partnership with NCFL. It provides tremendous opportunities for our families and helps to strengthen their connection to our district. Working with NCFL has taken our family engagement work to the next level, and I would encourage any school district to collaborate with this outstanding organization.*

*– Dr. Marty Pollio,  
Superintendent, Jefferson  
County Public Schools*

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*Family Engagement is truly an important part of our work in Teaching and Learning. We have made amazing progress with our family engagement. This work will continue with our Future State Work with the Extended Learning Team. We are continuing to build the bridge from school-home effectively. We value our families in JCPS and they play an integral role in the district. Our family engagement meetings with the schools and NCFL coaches are a great collaboration and way to provide feedback to ensure we are doing what we can do for our families. We look forward to continuing the work with NCFL and providing support for our families and students.*

*– Michelle L. Dillard,  
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and  
Learning, Jefferson County Public Schools*

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*NCFL has been an essential partner in ensuring that all JCPS students have equitable access to the academic, social, and emotional benefits of an engaged adult caregiver. NCFL has been instrumental in helping our district build equitable family engagement systems and capacity—both of which are necessary for positive student outcomes. I could not execute our extensive family engagement strategic plan without the teamwork and commitment from NCFL!*

*– Chrystal Hawkins,  
Family Engagement Specialist,  
Jefferson County Public Schools*

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# SAY & PLAY WITH WORDS

WORDS UNLOCK SUCCESS

## Say & Play with Words

NCFL is leading the field in providing equity in early childhood education through its evidence-based Say & Play with Words (SPW) initiative. The NCFL team partners with local Louisville nonprofits that serve families in city neighborhoods lacking high quality child care resources. SPW works to embed evidence-based family engagement and family literacy practices that support vocabulary development in young children ages birth through three years. In its third program year, SPW families met weekly in a virtual environment, where they learned important, simple interactions and activities that they can do at home to talk and play more with their children. Childcare staff received training and coaching from NCFL's team in order to facilitate these sessions with families.

SPW demonstrates real impact for families. Parenting adults increase their conversational turns in the home with their children, a key building block for school readiness. SPW builds stronger bonds between parenting adults and their children, fostering strong social-emotional skills. Adult participants report increased confidence in their parenting skills, knowledge of their children's development, and positive beliefs that their children will do well in school. SPW is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies along with many Louisville-based funders including the Lift A Life Foundation, the C.E. and S. Foundation, the Gheens Foundation, Louisville Metro Government, and PNC Bank's regional office.







## Wonderopolis®

NCFL's most popular online education platform, [Wonderopolis.org](https://wonderopolis.org), came to the rescue for both parents and educators as an exciting learning resource when schools shut down as a result of COVID-19. Wonderopolis effectively extends learning beyond school walls, fostering student curiosity and imagination through standards-aligned, inquiry-based learning. Its partnerships with Flipgrid, Microsoft's video learning community, expands the platform's reach to educators and classrooms globally. Platform engagement dramatically increased when many schools switched to remote learning in 2020, with an average engagement figure of 909,064 unique visitors per month! NCFL's team fuels audience engagement by the continuous creation of new, standards-aligned STE(a)M content through daily Wonders of the Day®. All content can be translated into 116 languages, can be read out loud for greater accessibility, and builds literacy skills through multimedia channels and project-based learning activities. Wonderopolis's reach and popularity has attracted much attention from organizations and companies with complementary missions. In 2021, NCFL launched a partnership with Canva for Educators to create inspiring content that provides opportunities for students and families to visually demonstrate their learning through digital templates based upon Wonder of the Day content.



- 180 new Wonders of the Day
- 300 Wonderopolis Family Learning Kits distributed to network to support learning beyond school walls



## Akron Family Engagement

Emerging work has begun with Akron Public Schools (APS) to establish the foundational infrastructure and readiness to incrementally and strategically build a districtwide continuum of family engagement across APS schools and grade levels. Just as a tree needs sturdy, nourished roots and good soil to grow, blossom, and replenish itself, authentic family engagement frameworks require very similar beginnings from which to nurture cohesive systems and consistent practices that positively put families and students at the center of the school environment. NCFL is focusing on building these roots for APS in year one through a phased professional development package of research-based offerings for school personnel that provides staff with the right tools to welcome, work with, and encourage family participation in the school environment.

Through this partnership, NCFL provides intentional support for APS focused on family engagement in schools. Participants in this year-long project will engage in three professional learning sessions focused on creating school-level family engagement teams, developing goals for family engagement, writing action plans for implementing improvements and identifying their own metrics for success. Additionally, participants will join their peers for three group coaching sessions with NCFL facilitators where they discuss progress and challenges while getting supportive feedback.



# Family Leadership

## Activate! Families Transforming Communities

NCFL's family leadership programs are elevating family voice in education across the country. Our team has launched family leadership institutes across six communities nationwide. These institutes run between six and eight months and include 25-35 families with parenting adults who are interested in leadership opportunities to increase equitable outcomes in education. During these programs, families work together to create and carry out solutions to challenges that they identify in their communities. Using NCFL's research-based, six-step Family Service Learning process, families learn, practice, and apply fundamental workforce skills as they work toward community-driven solutions. They may organize and host meetings with local officials, use computers to write and design digital resources, and research and analyze data, among other activities. Members of the Activate! group in Fort Worth, Texas are now core members and decision makers of the county's Early Learning Alliance, the group determining short- and long-term strategy for early childhood education in the region. With the voices and lived experiences of families front and center in the Alliance's work, Activate! members are critical contributors to creating more equitable early childhood outcomes.



## Activate! National Early Childhood (EC) Advocacy Network

In 2021, NCFL launched its national EC leadership network, Activate! National, with support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the PNC Foundation in support of its early childhood education initiative, PNC Grow Up Great®. The goal of this network is to amplify the voices of underserved families of color in national EC conversations while strengthening relationships between parenting adults and EC decision makers in local communities. Activate! National members have previously participated in NCFL's local Activate! Programming. They pair up with an EC decision maker in their community and participate in monthly convenings with other parent and practitioner pairings from across the country. Together over three years, network members will unite learnings from their communities to shape a shared agenda with the goal of influencing larger EC systems and policy change that fosters and sustains racial equity. NCFL's network facilitation and co-design process bridges the parent leader and EC practitioner divide through intentional collaboration across diverse perspectives. In the first year of the program, participants include 19 parents of color and 18 EC decision makers from eleven communities and seven states.



## “We the Family” Podcast

With funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, NCFL launched its inaugural podcast series, “We the Family” to support positive stories of how families possess the agency and abilities to create broader change. This podcast highlights the power of community and aims to change the narrative of underserved families through their work and experiences featured in each episode. Families participating in NCFL’s Family Service Learning programs were trained using tools and practices of the art of storytelling. Each podcast episode highlights the journey of different families and how they improved their community through NCFL’s six-step Family Service Learning process. Thirteen episodes, representing season one, are available in both English and Spanish on the following podcast stations: Podotron, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeart Radio, and Google Podcasts. Stay tuned for season two of the “We the Family” podcast in 2022.



# Equity and Innovation

## Equity

Over thirty-two years, NCFL has advanced its mission alongside families in diverse communities, sharing insights and learnings with the larger field. NCFL's work in equity is not new; it is who we are as an organization and has evolved over time to meet the changing needs of families. Still, we know this work is never finished and each year, we strive to improve upon executing our principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). In 2021, we updated our organizational commitments and will plan to do this annually.

NCFL celebrates diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) with families, partners, school districts, communities, and employees. We commit to continuous program improvement and strive to create an environment that encourages employees, partners, and families to be their authentic selves. We commit to this initiative by:

- Creating inclusive spaces which include language justice;
- Communicating with and including all stakeholders who represent a shared space;
- Encouraging family leadership through co-design in current and future partnerships;
- Embedding DEI into our programming evaluation metrics;
- Recruiting and retaining a more diverse staff;
- Focusing on diverse representation at all levels—including our board of directors, staff, organization leadership, programming, and educational materials;
- Deliberately seeking vendors that are owned by BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and/or People of Color);
- Establishing a DEI training program for all employees; and
- Creating and publishing an annual DEI report.







## Program and Technology Innovations

Over the past two years, NCFL has pursued strategic adaptations of how we do our work in light of continuous improvement and the pervasive impact of COVID-19. In 2021, we tackled some of the persistent challenges facing families in their new realities such as lack of childcare options and the shift to remote learning and work environments. As part of this, we sought to gain a better understanding for how XR (Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, and Mixed Reality) development could transform the quality of learning experiences for families and partners.

This learning culminated in August, when we invited educators, learning designers, funders, and researchers to an Experiential & Immersive Learning Summit that took place in Virtual Reality (VR). NCFL, in partnership with immersive technology organization Exponential Destiny and Broward County Public Schools, with funding provided by Verizon, shared information about how we piloted immersive technologies as tools to enhance learning for underserved families.

During this event, Summit participants had the opportunity to explore firsthand several immersive environments created by families and educators. While wearing VR headsets, attendees interacted with each other, investigated materials, and moved around to gain more context for understanding 3D spaces that offered depth, agency, and a sense of wonder. This experience was the first of its kind for the family engagement space. NCFL will continue bringing new opportunities to the field as we innovate and learn about the possibilities of XR as a tool to enhance family literacy, family engagement, and family leadership.



# Families Learning Conference

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## 2021 Families Learning Conference

There is no better space for sharing and fostering innovations in the field of family literacy, family engagement, and family leadership than at NCFL's annual Families Learning Conference. This year, our team was forced to pivot how we curate and facilitate this nationally recognized learning event as a result of COVID-19. It gave us the opportunity to reimagine this space by engaging our national network through a virtual environment.

### Top 10 states represented:

- |               |                              |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Texas      | 6. Kentucky                  |
| 2. Hawaii     | 7. South Dakota and Virginia |
| 3. Arizona    | 8. Pennsylvania              |
| 4. New Mexico | 9. Nebraska                  |
| 5. California |                              |

### Top 10 attendee work categories:

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Community-Based Organization/Nonprofit | 6. Education—K-12               |
| 2. Education—Family Literacy/Learning     | 7. Education Administrator      |
| 3. Parent/Family Leader                   | 8. Library                      |
| 4. Education—Adult                        | 9. Research                     |
| 5. Education—Early Childhood              | 10. Social Services/Social Work |

“

*“NCFL has been at the forefront in many regards in changing the conversation around school-focused family engagement, so for me, hearing more about innovations in this area would be important.”*

—2021 Families Learning Conference attendee

”



“

**Our conference positions NCFL as a thought leader in our field.**

“I love how each theme [of the general sessions] highlights a best practice or an innovation of where the field is headed.”

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“

**NCFL has a reputation for putting on an excellent, well-run event that offers relevant, diverse content.**

“My first experience was Arizona, where I discovered the world of NCFL and it blew me away. I keep coming back because it's high quality. Gets you excited about family engagement.”

“NCFL's conference provides a lot of good content. I enjoy being able to pick and choose.”

”

“

**There is a strong sense of community and idea-sharing among attendees.**

“NCFL conferences have always felt like a close-knit community. The mix of practitioners focusing on family literacy, math, libraries, etc., really creates a rich cross-collaborative conversation that I think sometimes other conferences don't have. The audience is also always eager to learn and ask questions.”

”

55% new attendees

Self-reported FACE/BIE representatives

Self-reported SFEC representatives

# Financial Reporting

**July 1, 2020 — June 30, 2021**

## Income

Government Grants	\$1,828,497
Training Contracts	\$2,639,746
Contributions, Gifts and Grants	\$2,688,173
Other	\$414,172

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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,570,588</b>
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## Expenses

Programs	\$5,894,377
Administration	\$1,090,714
Fundraising	\$346,555

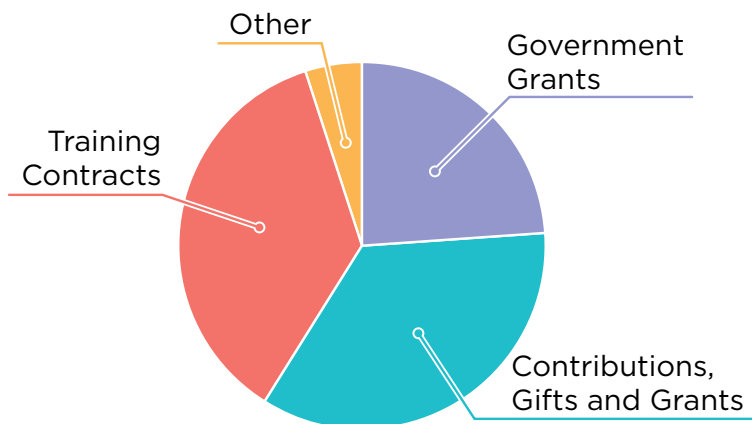
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,331,646</b>
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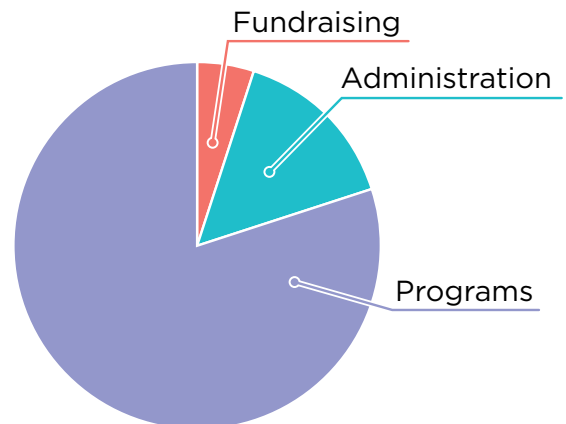
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$238,942</b>
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<b>Net Assets End of Year</b>	<b>\$15,356,469</b>
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## Income



## Expenses

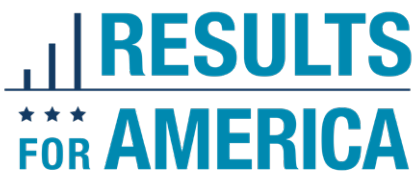


# Funders

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**TOYOTA**



The William R. Kenan, Jr.  
Charitable Trust

C.E.and S. Foundation, Inc.



## **NCFL and Toyota support literacy through nationwide book distribution**

In December 2021, longtime partners NCFL and Toyota spotlighted the importance of literacy by distributing more than 85,000 books to 2,000 families nationwide. The effort tied into Toyota's holiday ad "Bookstore," which shares the heartwarming story of a young girl who gets inspired to collect gently used books from her community to restock her favorite local bookstore after it's devastated by a fire. The holiday campaign and book donations were highlighted during NBC's annual tree lighting special, "Christmas in Rockefeller Center." The 2021 Toyota Family Teacher of the Year, Manoucheka Dolcine from Broward County, Florida, and her family appeared live at the event.



Photo courtesy of NBC

# Donors

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On behalf of our team and the families we work with at the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL), we thank the following donors:

## **\$1,000,000 or more**

U.S. Department of Education  
Bureau of Indian Education  
Toyota Motor North America, Inc.

## **\$100,000 - \$999,999**

Dollar General Literacy Foundation  
Results for America  
William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust  
C. E. and S. Foundation, Inc.  
Microsoft Corporation  
The Ginkgo Fund

## **\$50,000 - \$99,999**

Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium, Inc  
Rainwater Charitable Foundation  
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence  
Louisville Metro Government  
Verizon Communications  
Library of Congress

## **\$25,000 - \$49,999**

BHHS Legacy Foundation  
Search Institute  
Better World Books  
The Gheens Foundation, Inc.  
Lift a Life Foundation, Inc.  
Three Friends Charitable Fund  
Unite for Literacy  
Sheridan Rising Together for Equity

## **\$10,000 - \$24,999**

Fund for Shared Insight  
Anonymous  
Bruce Lunsford  
Benevity  
James J. Beres  
PNC Bank (Louisville office)

## **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Jefferson County Teachers Association  
Republic Bank/Republic Bank Foundation

## **\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Fidelity Charitable  
Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated  
The PNC Foundation  
Richard Barr  
LG&E and KU Energy Foundation  
Allstate Foundation  
Verdigris Inc.  
Half Price Books  
e-Core IT Solutions, LLC  
Literacy Funders Network  
Mark H. Alcott  
Jennifer Brownyard  
Sharon Darling  
Jacob Sievers  
Holly Walters

## Donors Continued

### \$250 - \$999

The John L. and Julia M. Helm Fund	Margo Waddell	Kevin Chimo
Meredith Parente	Leslie Wilson	Megan Gentile
Michael and M. Louise Slaven	Bright Funds Foundation	Cheri Kropp
Shea Coughlin Snider and Bradley Snider	Barbara Grant	Jeffrey Morrissey
Rosa Guzman-Snyder	Emergenetics International	Brittany Viklund
Nicole Chestang	Johanna Bless	Rebecca Ward
Dr. E. Susan Gourley	Jessica Boren	Melissa Hall
Boris Kofman	Becky Goetzinger	Carrie Wohlschlegel
Karen McMenemy	Julia Harper	Dave Barritt
Capt. Houston Mills	Allison Miller	Simon & Schuster, Inc.
Toshiaki Taguchi	Wendee Mullikin	Tani Brown
Jay Warren	Danielle Norton	Bruce Burrow
Network for Good	Vanessa Scott	Greg Clark
Laura Westberg	Andy Stine	Lynn Davies
Anonymous	Sara Ulliman	Chad Farabee
Barry and Debra Bernstein	Gillian Acton	Brian Hancock
Marc Otte	Penelope Allen	Tommy Kemp
South Florida PBS	Dan Arbough	Julie Lewicki
Frontstream/Truist	Henry Biglin	Sue Pon
Joshua Cramer	Anonymous	Amanda Free
Leigh Ann Berte	Donna Elder	Faina Furman
Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson Fleming	Deenie Espinoza	Katherine Henry
Dr. Vikki Katz	Christopher Lehman	Donna Knapil
Barbara Mcdaniel	Kuna Tavalin	Jaziah Masters
David Seidenberg	Louise Wall	Colleen Cabry
	Clay Rice	Susannah Chambers
	AmazonSmile	Meredith Whitaker
	Ann Greenspun	Andeaux Borunda
	Rebecca Pink	Caden Hooper
	Joell Miller	Sheila Klados
	Anthony Pomeranz	Rachel Padgett
	Shana Ashar	Pledgeling Foundation
	Karen Brandt	

### \$1 - \$249

The Kroger Company  
Rebecca Barnwell  
Sherri Hudson  
Alyssa Schlicher  
Kendra Smiley



# Board of Directors

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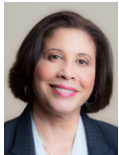
NCFL's board represents a group of national leaders who share their professional expertise across diverse fields to provide organizational governance and guidance. They dedicate their talents, time, and resources to support NCFL in fulfilling its mission. Our team is sincerely grateful for the generosity and energy extended by this incredible group of individuals who help ensure the longevity of our work.



**Richard E. Barr**  
Retired Vice President, Airline  
Operations, UPS



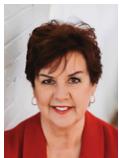
**Christopher Lehman**  
Founding Director, The  
Educator Collaborative



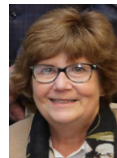
**Nicole M. Chestang**  
Principal, The Chestang Group



**Captain Houston Mills**  
Vice President, Flight Operations  
& Safety, UPS



**Sharon Darling**  
Founder, Retired, National Center for  
Families Learning



**Meredith M. Parente**  
Financial Consultant; Retired Vice  
President/Treasurer, Brown-Forman  
Corporation



**Deenie Espinoza**  
Former NCFL Family Literacy Student;  
Board Advisor, Organizational Leadership  
and Learning, University of Louisville;  
Operations Manager, Appriss



**Holly Walters**  
Group Vice President and Chief  
Information Officer, Toyota Motor  
North America



**E. Susan Gourley, Ph.D.**  
Retired Superintendent, Lincoln  
Public Schools



**Jay W. Warren**  
Director of Compliance and Senior  
Counsel, LG&E and KU Energy LLC



**Jacquelyn Jackson Fleming**  
President, LifeLearn Associates; Retired,  
Director of Student Achievement and  
School Accountability U.S. Department  
of Education



**Mary Gwen Wheeler**  
Consultant  
Education Policy Strategist



**Vikki Katz, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor, Rutgers School of  
Communication & Information

# Sharon Darling Innovation Fund

In honor of its founder, NCFL's Board of Directors announced the creation of the Sharon Darling Innovation Fund, which enables NCFL to test new family literacy and learning innovations throughout its national network. To kick off this fund, the organization raised \$750,000 through board leadership. Readers interested in contributing to the Sharon Darling Innovation Fund are invited to visit [Familieslearning.org/donate](http://Familieslearning.org/donate).



*Sharon Darling*  
INNOVATION FUND

ncfi<sup>®</sup> National Center for  
Families Learning

