



IMPACT REPORT

2025





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LEADERSHIP NOTE

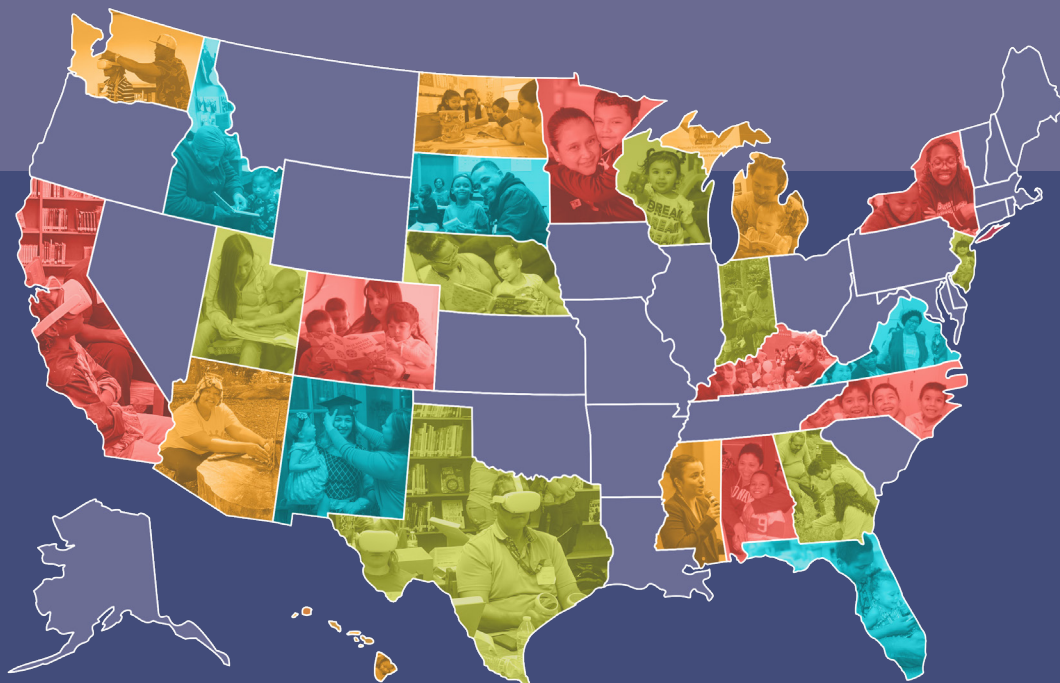
As we reflect on the past year, one question comes to the forefront: How can we continue to strive for a standard of excellence and meet the needs of children and families even as the ground continues to shift beneath our feet?

When the path before us is complex or uncertain, that is when we must demonstrate leadership that models courage and integrity, and creates an environment that encourages adaptation and innovation. Throughout the past year, we have been reminded that making an impact isn't about fulfilling a grant or contract requirement. It's about making a tangible and enduring difference in communities across the country and in the lives of the children and families we serve. Someone once said that making a difference doesn't require changing the world; it just requires changing someone's world. Each time we work with parenting adults to develop their literacy skills, build partnerships with their children's school, or raise their voice in support of meaningful change, we are making a difference that strengthens families and changes their world for the better. These families then become the secure foundation on which thriving communities are built.

Within these pages, you will discover the ways in which NCFL's work made a difference for children and families in

2025. Throughout the year, NCFL has worked closely with our partners to make strong progress on a number of goals relevant to the needs of families, including:

- **Elevating the field** through publications like our recent brief on the effectiveness of parent councils and through keynotes, panels, and presentations for a variety of national conferences and summits, including the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE), the Board of Latino Legislative Leaders (BLLL) Summit, the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) National Conference, and the Partners for Rural Impact Rural Summit.
- **Piloting innovative programming**, including professional learning designed to help secondary school educators to expand their family engagement efforts; an updated iteration of our Let's Learn Together Outside program, aimed at increasing nature-based play and early literacy; and continued study of the use of AI in our family learning efforts.
- **Strengthening family and community impact** by announcing four new Family Learning Communities which bring together cross-sector partners to focus on elevating family voice so that systems of support are designed based on actual family need.



We know that the changes brought about this year will continue to resonate in 2026. That is why our Legacy of Family Learning campaign, launched in November 2025, is so vital to our work moving forward. The campaign's ambitious goal—to raise \$10 million dollars and reach 12,000 families, 850 schools, and 20,000 educators—will make it possible for parents and children to build the literacy skills that will enable better jobs and brighter futures. Every \$1 raised will create \$32 in return while building a stronger workforce, enabling families to thrive, and eradicating poverty at its root.

Our commitment to assuming a posture of elevated leadership during these unprecedented times is how NCFL has navigated the previous 36 years as a leader in the field. Through the Legacy of Family Learning campaign, we are charting a course to continue this success for decades to come.

More than anything else, this year has made clear that our path forward is never guaranteed. What matters most is our willingness to adapt with resilience, remain true to our mission, and find joy in the difference we're making for children and families.

Onward together,



Felicia C. Smith, Ed.D
President & CEO
National Center for
Families Learning



Nicole M. Chestang
Board Chair
Partner, Social and
Leadership Concepts

2024-2027

STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2024, NCFL launched a new strategic plan that aimed to deepen our impact and expand our reach while ensuring that families have access to the transformative power of multigenerational learning. Throughout 2025, important progress was made in each of the plan's key pillars including:

- **Launching four new Family Learning Communities®** during the year and implementing a 3-year case-study based evaluation designed to assess FLC effectiveness.
- **Continuing the spread of our core programming** across the country while disseminating new resources to the field, including a playbook for leveraging family engagement for immersive technology.
- **Developing and expanding strategic partnerships** that build NCFL's national voice alongside the National Coalition for Literacy, Education Trust, and the Ronald Reagan Institute.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



**Strategic
policy & advocacy**



**Innovative
programming**



**Transformational
community impact**



**Diversified
revenue streams**



**Thriving
organizational
culture**

LEGACY OF FAMILY LEARNING CAMPAIGN

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: DIVERSIFIED REVENUE STREAMS

NCFL diversified its revenue portfolio this year through new multi-year philanthropic commitments and a mix of public and private funding partnerships. We deepened or launched new work with several long-standing private partners including Toyota, PNC Foundation, Dollar General Literacy Foundation, and the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust, while also welcoming new commitments from Lilly Endowment, Inc. and the Mebane Foundation. We continued to benefit from robust public partnerships with the U.S. Department of Education, the Bureau of Indian Education, and multiple state adult education agencies, all of which remain important to our ability to seed and sustain multigenerational programming and Family Learning Communities nationwide. Securing an uptick of new donors while maintaining legacy partnerships demonstrates meaningful progress toward a more resilient funding model capable of carrying NCFL's mission forward.

Still, 2025 brought the same headwinds many nonprofits face: shifting public priorities, funding cycles that can change without warning, and the inherent volatility of year-over-year fundraising. Rather than accept those constraints, NCFL doubled down on building a stronger financial foundation. This year we launched the Legacy of Family Learning campaign, which is an ambitious \$10 million effort designed to expand our base of individual and institutional donors, stabilize long-term revenue, and scale our ability to impact 12,000 families and 20,000 educators over the coming years. Announced publicly at the 2025 Families Learning Conference, the campaign will run through 2027 and will fuel our continued efforts to build a brighter future for families and communities.

Learn more about
our Legacy of
Family Learning
Campaign



CULTIVATING THRIVING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

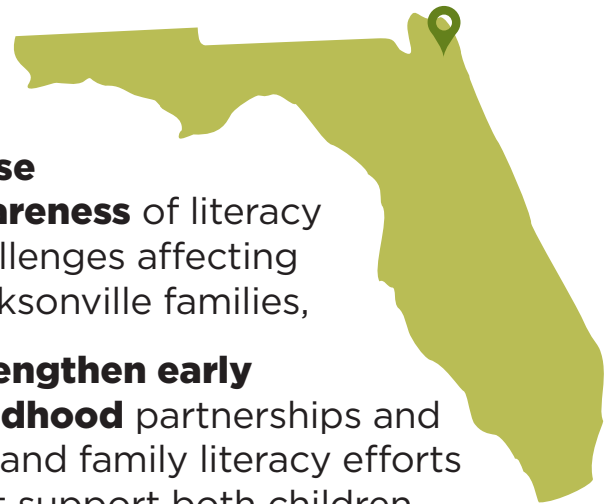
FAMILY LEARNING COMMUNITIES®

NCFL established four new Family Learning Communities® (FLC) in 2025: Butler County, Kentucky; Huntsville, Alabama; Jacksonville, Florida; and Rockcastle County, Kentucky. Butler County and Jacksonville provide a representative comparison of the unique paths with which partners approach the FLC process.

Jacksonville is the most populous city in Florida and serves as a hub for healthcare, logistics, and finance/fintech industries. Yet, an estimated 21% of adults in the county perform at or below the lowest literacy level, and 43% of these adults live in poverty. Marcus Haile, President and CEO of the Literacy Alliance of Northeast Florida (LANEF), hopes that the establishment of the Jacksonville FLC will begin to move the needle on these

important issues. He serves as the anchor partner leading the FLC's design and implementation alongside representatives from the Children's Literacy Initiative, the City of Jacksonville, and Duval County Public Schools. The team's initial goals are to:

- **Raise awareness** of literacy challenges affecting Jacksonville families,
- **Strengthen early childhood** partnerships and expand family literacy efforts that support both children and adult learners, and
- **Build business partnerships** that lead to meaningful employment for adults.



151

Communities impacted in 2025, including **14** Families Learning Communities and **144** communities engaged in family learning programming

MEET THE GRAND RAPIDS FLC

Discover how partners in Grand Rapids, Michigan—including the Literacy Center of West Michigan, Corewell Health, and Grand Rapids Public Schools—are working with NCFL to build a Family Learning Community® that directly connects adult learners to health careers.



Watch the video



In **Butler County**, an estimated 15% of the county's 12,375 live in poverty and academic data indicates that 39% of third graders are reading at grade level. Butler County's superintendent of schools, Robert Tuck, is hoping to change that. He serves as the anchor partner lead for the Butler County FLC, with support from the mayor of Morgantown and County Judge Executive. Other core partners include the Housing Authority and Kiwanis Club. Butler's FLC has identified three areas of focus:

- **Leveraging family literacy programming** to support early childhood learners and their families,
- **Bolstering community partnerships** to ensure continuation of support for families utilizing a streamlined process for programming, and
- **Embedding parent voice** in local accountability reporting measures.



SUPPORTING MULTIGENERATIONAL LEARNING

FAMILY LITERACY

Increasingly, partners across the country are seeing family literacy as a powerful solution to support children's learning and assist parenting adults in securing better jobs. During 2025, NCFL expanded family literacy programming to more than 40 sites across the country. This expansion included a new statewide partnership with the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) to support the launch of 12 family literacy sites, ensuring that families across Georgia have better access to family literacy's proven multigenerational approach. NCFL's work with TCSG highlights the crucial role that family literacy can play in uniting cross-sector partners to enhance literacy for the whole family and is being used as an exemplar for other states in the early stages of building statewide family literacy collaborations.

Both new and existing family literacy sites are supported through access to NCFL-facilitated Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) that foster shared learning, collaboration, and continuous program development for family literacy facilitators across the country.



These PLCs also support family literacy providers across the state in building capacity for the field. Recently, PLC participants have engaged in site visits to learn from one another, highlighting the importance of nationwide program building across contexts.

Evaluations of family literacy programming demonstrate the model's multigenerational impact. A December 2025 report on family literacy programming in Kentucky found that 69% of participating parents met or made progress towards their educational goals, including earning a GED® and obtaining credentials that open the doors to new and better jobs. Additionally, strong increases were seen in at-home literacy behaviors, with parents noting that interactions with their children became more intentional as they began to “make every opportunity a learning opportunity.”

FAMILY AND CHILD EDUCATION (FACE)

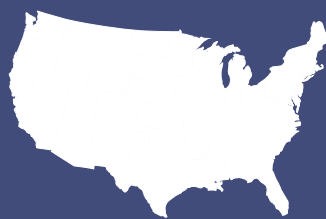


FACE continues to deliver high-quality technical assistance (TA) and professional development to FACE educators in 54 tribal schools across 11 states. Virtual and in-person TA visits promote continuous improvement, and educators report strong appreciation for the expertise and real-time feedback provided through both virtual and in-person coaching.

Alongside TA, NCFL delivers research-based professional development that strengthens program implementation. In 2025, PD included monthly webinars

covering topics such as effective read-aloud practices, supporting learning differences, and career readiness in adult education. Educators note that the PD is practical, relevant, and directly applicable to classroom practice. Together, these learning opportunities contribute to strong multigenerational outcomes for the FACE program, with 74% of adult learners obtaining their GED® or high school diploma and 81% of prekindergarten children meeting or exceeding literacy expectations.

Similar results were seen in Nebraska family literacy sites, with 100% of parent participants making progress towards their goals, including upgrading their job skills, starting their own business, and continuing their education after high school. The program also had a positive impact on the children of participating families, with parents reporting that their children made academic improvement and became more motivated to learn.



43 NCFL family literacy sites nationwide



54 BIE schools supported through FACE



STORYTELLING FOR IMPACT

MEET BRANDY

Brandy became a stay-at-home mom at age 19. For more than a decade, she was the primary caregiver for her five children. Following her divorce, she needed to enter the workforce to help support her family financially.

Brandy first joined a family literacy program because she thought it would help her children, giving them more opportunities to connect and feel supported. Through the program, she also found the chance to build her resume and her job skills, earning a ServSafe Food Handlers certification. Brandy is now working towards a nursing degree with the goal of entering the mental health field. She credits family literacy with making learning a family activity in her home.



STORYTELLING FOR IMPACT

MEET MARGARET

Margaret struggled as a high school student and ultimately dropped out before achieving her degree. But she knew she wanted to ensure that her children, Clayton and Serenity, had a different experience with school.

Margaret first entered the FACE program to support her children's learning. But she soon found that FACE could also help her achieve her own educational and job goals. With help from her FACE adult education teacher, Margaret first completed her GED®. Then she went on to earn an Associates degree in early childhood education from Oglala Lakota College. Now she is the co-teacher of the FACE pre-kindergarten class, where she builds connections with other parents and helps ensure local children are ready for kindergarten.

NATIONAL FAMILY LITERACY MONTH®

National Family Literacy Month® celebrates the power of multigenerational learning to increase student achievement, help adults find new and better jobs, and transform the lives of families. This year, NCFL was honored when Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen and Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear chose to join us by proclaiming November to be Family Literacy Month in their states. These proclamations served to underscore the ongoing success of family literacy programming in Nebraska, Kentucky, and throughout the United States.



National Family Literacy Month®



Proclamation

by

Andy Beshear
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- WHEREAS, Nearly 59 million adults in the United States lack the basic literacy, numeracy, and digital skills necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society. Without these basic skills, parents don't have the tools they need to support their child's education or reach their own workforce or economic goals; and
- WHEREAS, Despite a surge in Kentucky adult education and literacy program enrollment, and recent significant gains in the measurable skills rate for the state, 22% of Kentucky adults remain at the lowest levels of literacy; and
- WHEREAS, The national family literacy movement began here in Kentucky; and
- WHEREAS, Family literacy programs, in which multiple generations from the same family engage in learning together, recognize the critical link between adult educational attainment and child academic success; and
- WHEREAS, Families involved in family literacy programming often see children perform better in school and attend school more frequently while parents become better equipped to partner with their child's school and develop tools to improve their family's economic mobility; and
- WHEREAS, National Family Literacy Month, established by the National Center for Families Learning, celebrates the families who are engaged in learning together through family literacy, ensuring that education is a shared value that is carried forward from generation to generation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim November 2025, as

FAMILY LITERACY MONTH

in Kentucky.



Done in the City of Frankfort the 19th day of November,
in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Five and
in the 234th year of the Commonwealth.

Andy Beshear
ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

Michael G. Adams
Michael G. Adams
Secretary of State



Learn more about
National Family
Literacy Month
and how you can
participate.

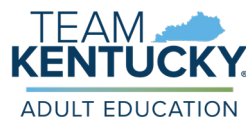
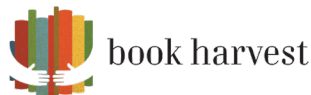
FAMILY LEARNING PARTNERS

NCFL is grateful for the state and national partners that work alongside us in service to children and families.

National Partners



State Partners



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

PROLITERACY AND DOLLAR GENERAL LITERACY FOUNDATION

Together, ProLiteracy and NCFL partner to ensure all adults have a single access point to local educational resources that can help them change their lives—and the lives of their families—for the better. Made possible thanks to the generous support of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, the National Literacy Directory includes listings for more than 10,400 literacy and learning programs and testing centers. The website received an average of 18,000 visits per month in 2025, raising awareness of



community-based adult learning opportunities across the country and helping to ensure that adults are connected to local resources to help them achieve their education and job goals.



RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL

NCFL's Research Advisory Council (RAC) supports our research and evaluation efforts with a focus on the growth of effective practices in family literacy, family engagement, and family leadership. The RAC also provides space for these dedicated researchers to elevate their work on a national stage.

In 2025, RAC member Dr. Iheoma Iruka delivered a keynote at the Families Learning Conference, and several other members conducted concurrent sessions. In addition, RAC members contributed to NCFL's national webinar series and completed a research brief on parent advisory councils.



Dr. Kara Hirano
Search Institute



Dr. Esther Prins
Pennsylvania State University,
Goodling Institute for Research in
Family Literacy and Institute for
Study of Adult Literacy



Dr. Iheoma U. Iruka
University of North Carolina,
Frank Porter Graham Child
Development Institute and Equity
Research Action Coalition



Dr. Beth Redbird
Northwestern University



Dr. Kimberly Kelly
Michigan State University



Dr. John Sabatini
University of Memphis



Dr. Emily Markovich Morris
The Brookings Institution and
Center for University Education



Dr. Steven Sheldon
Johns Hopkins University and
Center for School, Family, and
Community Partnerships



Dr. Kristen H. Perry
University of Kentucky



Dr. Ivory A. Toldson
Quality Education for Minorities
Network and Howard University



Dr. Shanette Porter
University of Chicago Consortium
on School Research



Dr. Blaire Toso
Blaire Willson Toso Consulting, LLC

ADVANCING THE FIELD

Parent advisory councils are frequently used in the education and community sector; yet there has been little research done on the evidence of their effectiveness. NCFL's Research Advisory Council recognized this gap and chose to investigate best practices for parent councils to contribute to the field.

The overall review of the literature found that parent councils are most successful when their roles are clearly defined, they are supported by leadership, and they include representation from families with different backgrounds.

Ultimately, investing in high-quality parent councils can deepen family-school partnerships and give parents a meaningful role in shaping educational policies and practices, though more research is needed to understand their long-term impact.



Read the brief

Parent Advisory Councils:

Elevating Family Voice and Leadership in Education



ncfi
National Center for
Families Learning

STRENGTHENING FAMILY/ SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FROM BIRTH THROUGH ADULthood

Early Childhood: Through our early childhood programming, NCFL equips caregivers with a deeper understanding of their child's development and specific strategies they can use to positively impact their learning trajectory as they approach kindergarten. In 2025, Play with Purpose™, a nine-week structured playgroup curriculum for children 0-5, reached 630 families across California, Colorado, Indiana, and Kentucky. Evaluation results show positive outcomes for both parenting adults and participating children, with children demonstrating improvement in communication, motor, and personal-social skills and parenting adults demonstrating growth in

their understanding of setting goals and the role of play in their child's development.

NCFL expanded the scope of our early childhood offerings this year with Let's Learn Together Outside (LLTO), an outdoor play-based learning program supported by funding from PNC Grow Up Great®. Early data shows that 88% of caregivers strongly agree they now understand how outdoor play supports their child's development, a 32-point increase from pre-program.

Secondary: A new version of Partnering with Families for Student Success—an intensive, hybrid professional learning opportunity—was piloted in Nebraska in





partnership with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and the Nebraska Statewide Family Engagement Center. This new iteration of the program included a focus on the unique aspects of family engagement in secondary schools. Outcomes included participants establishing strong communication strategies with families, implementing practical family engagement strategies, and shifting to an asset-based mindset when working with families.

Additionally, NCFL conducted multiple cohorts of Family Service Learning in Science (FSLsci), a hybrid out-of-school time program in which teams of secondary educators, students, and their parenting adults investigate a challenge in their community. Teams developed virtual reality experiences to share their work and presented them at community showcases.

Survey results revealed that all participants—educators, parenting adults, and students—gained greater confidence with working in virtual reality through the program, and two-thirds of participating educators self-reported higher confidence in using family engagement strategies at the conclusion of the program.

Parent Advisory Councils: NCFL partners with school and district teams to implement and strengthen parent advisory councils that center family voice and create structured roles for families to inform and influence the decisions that shape family-school partnerships. These councils deepen trust between families and educators, enhance two-way communication, and help create more open, responsive learning environments—all conditions that research suggests can contribute over time to stronger engagement and outcomes for students.



89% of PFSS participants increased their knowledge about family engagement

Source: Nebraska PFSS evaluation



83% of Play with Purpose parents showed improvement in parenting skills

Source: Play with Purpose evaluation (California)

STORYTELLING FOR IMPACT

MEET SALLY

Sally is a single mom to two young sons, 2-year-old Rhys and 4-year-old Zane. Both boys have developmental delays that sometimes made playtime feel stressful for the whole family.

Through her participation in Play with Purpose™ playgroups, Sally not only found a welcoming and supportive environment that allowed each of her boys to step out of their shell socially. She also discovered the tools she needed to approach play time differently. Instead of worrying about the amount of support her boys needed during play activities, she learned to appreciate and nurture the skills they have while finding joy and connection through play.



STORYTELLING
FOR IMPACT

MEET JESSICA

Jessica became a parent member of the Special Advisory Committee (SAC) of the Nebraska Statewide Family Engagement Center (NE SFEC) in 2023 because, in an increasingly divided world, she wanted the chance to help bring her community together around a shared commitment to families and the future of their children.

In the two years since, she's watched as the SAC shaped family engagement across Nebraska by modeling what strong partnerships between families, schools, and community agencies can look like. She's also had the chance to connect with families from many walks of life and learn from them. "Experiences like this are incredibly important for Nebraska families," says Jessica, "because they create spaces for us to share our concerns, have our voices heard, and advocate not only for our own families, but for our communities as well."



2025 FAMILIES LEARNING CONFERENCE

ncfi FAMILIES LEARNING
CONFERENCE
November 2-5, 2025 • Charlotte, NC

The 2025 Families Learning Conference brought together over 600 educators, literacy practitioners, community leaders, researchers, and funders to discover innovative strategies to support family learning. Keynote speakers included Dr. Rebecca Winthrop, who emphasized the importance of learner engagement in an AI-driven era; Dr. Karen Mapp, who urged schools to view family engagement as a strategic process; and Dr. Iheoma Iruka, who highlighted the power of authentic relationships in education.

Thought-provoking panels explored place-based systems change and the ethical use of AI in education and the workforce; parent participants shared moving stories of transformation through family

learning programming; and dozens of concurrent sessions and seminars provided opportunities for attendees to discover proven practices that they can immediately put to work in support of children and families.



“

This was the best conference that I have been to in over 27 years! I learned so much, both professionally and personally, that I will share and use.”

—2025 Families Learning Conference attendee





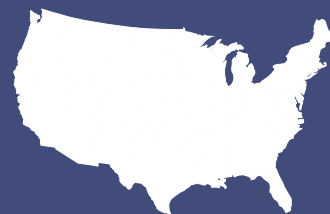
Explore the
conference
proceedings



96% of those surveyed
said the conference
gave them access to
new ways of thinking
about family learning.



604 attendees



39 states and Washington,
DC represented

2025 TOYOTA FAMILY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr. Shalun Matthews, Fulton County, Georgia



Learn more
about this
year's winner



DEVELOPING COURAGEOUS LEADERS

FAMILY LEADERSHIP

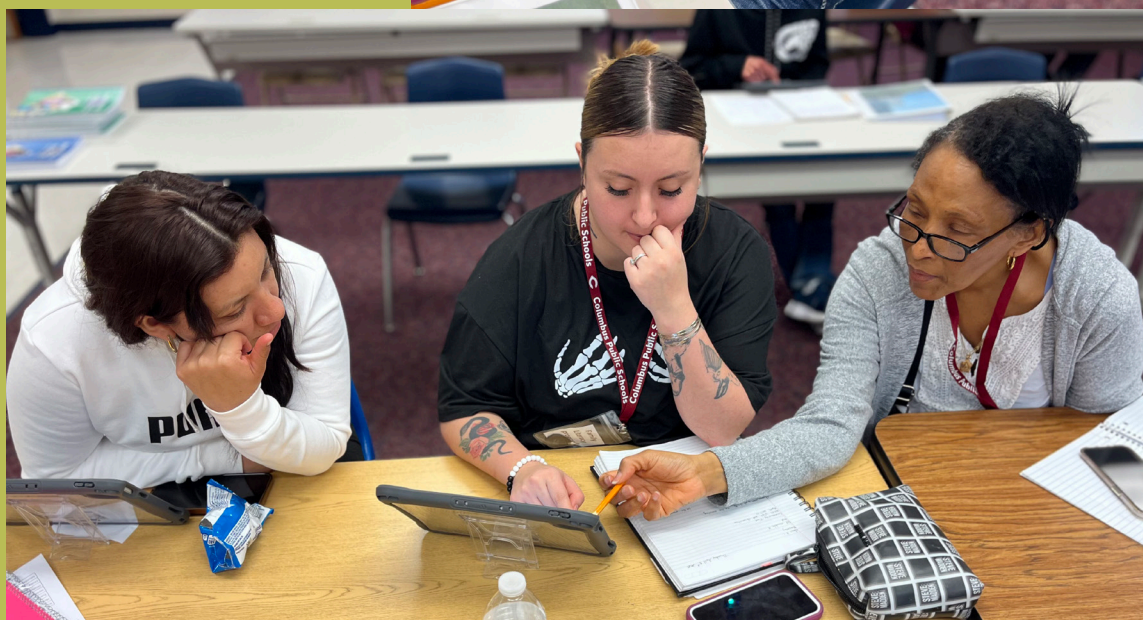
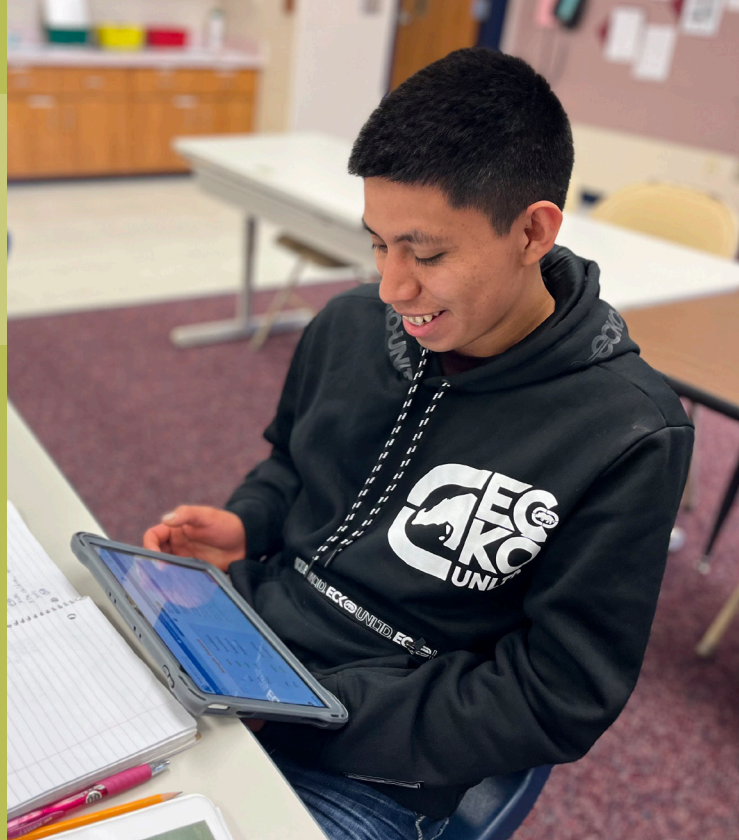
NCFL's family leadership work continues to demonstrate how authentic partnership between families, schools, and systems can transform educational ecosystems. Through Activate!™ Local, NCFL supported community-based cohorts in Colorado and North Carolina, engaging more than 90 participants in shared learning and leadership development. Each cohort reached families representing a wide range of experiences and perspectives, reflecting the program's strong community connections and ability to meet families where they are. Families collaborated in small workgroups focused on school, safety, and health priorities while

developing the skills and confidence to influence community decision makers. Evaluation results show strong growth and facilitators also observed families gaining confidence in public speaking, communicating with leaders, and mobilizing others for collective action.

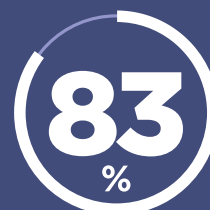
NCFL supported parents as they co-created practical guides on peer mentorship and family communication—resources that will be used to expand access to effective engagement practices beyond a single community or school district. Across this body of work, NCFL is advancing a clear vision: when families build leadership



capacity and systems leaders share power, sustainable change follows. Together, these efforts are redefining what family leadership looks like in practice—transforming it from participation to partnership, and from input to influence.



96% of Activate! participants believed they could influence their child's school following participation*



83% of Activate! participants believed they could take action on community needs following participation*

*Source: NCFL/Colorado Family Engagement Center Year Three Evaluation

STORYTELLING
FOR IMPACT

MEET KHADIJA

Khadija came to the United States with her family after fleeing war in her home country of Syria. She settled in Colorado, but sometimes struggled to access the information that would help her better integrate into her new life.

As a member of NCFL's first cohort of Activate! Local™ designed specifically for Arabic-speaking participants, Khadija gained valuable new skills. The program helped her and her family to deepen their connection to their new community and learn more about their rights and responsibilities as newcomers. Thanks to this new knowledge, the family feels able to serve as a resource for other new families, and Khadija has built the confidence to work towards starting her own business.





STORYTELLING FOR IMPACT **MEET MARIO**

Being a role model for his children is very important to Mario. Whether it's helping with homework or playing soccer in the yard, Mario strives to be an engaged father and live up to his sons' expectations of him. So when NCFL's family leadership program opened at his sons' school, he jumped at the opportunity to get involved and set an example for lifelong learning and community engagement.

Using practical skills and tools that he learned in the program, he and fellow participants collaborated to develop mental health resources for students. Mario credits the program for not only helping him develop skills in project management but also helping him to build confidence, strengthen ties to other families in the school, and develop a greater sense of belonging in his community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NCFL's Board of Directors is composed of a group of national leaders who provide organizational governance and dedicate their time, talents, and resources to support NCFL in fulfilling its mission. All of us at NCFL are sincerely grateful for the generosity, energy, and passion of these incredible individuals who help secure the longevity of our work.



Nicole M. Chestang
Board Chair

Partner, Social and Leadership Concepts



Captain Houston Mills

Vice President, Flight
Operations & Safety, UPS



Sharon Darling

Founder, Retired
National Center for Families Learning



Angela M. Quick, EdD

Senior Vice President,
Education, RTI International



Deenie Espinoza

Former Family Literacy Student
Manager, Student Service Adult Basic
Education for College and Career
Pima Community College



Kim Hunter Reed, PhD

Commissioner of Higher
Education, State of Louisiana



Jill Hawley

Chief Impact Officer,
Gary Community Ventures



Tony Semak, CFA

First Vice President, Investments,
Kerrick-Nusky & Semak Wealth
Management of Raymond James



Vikki Katz, Ph.D.

Professor & Fletcher Jones Endowed
Chair in Free Speech, Chapman University
School of Communication



Holly Walters

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



Christopher Lehman
Board Vice Chair

Founding Director,
The Educator Collaborative



Jay W. Warren

Director of Compliance and
Ethics, PPL Corporation



Candy Magaña, MPA.

Director, Strategic Alignment, Equity,
and Inclusion, Aledade, Inc.

NCFL wishes to extend our sincere gratitude to the following board members who concluded their service this year: Richard E. Barr; E. Susan Gourley, PhD; Meredith M. Parente; and Mary Gwen Wheeler. Their leadership and contributions have made a lasting impact, and we thank them for their long-standing commitment and service.

SHARON DARLING INNOVATION FUND

Sharon Darling
INNOVATION FUND

In 2025, the Sharon Darling Innovation Fund (SDIF) launched a new set of investments to more closely align with the innovation and systems-level work called for in NCFL's vision. These new investments provide three-year

grants to seed family learning systems innovation work in three communities. The investments serve as a catalyst to draw attention to the work and extend NCFL's core work through a systems approach.



In Louisville, Kentucky, Amped is accelerating innovation in the family literacy space by utilizing the SDIF grant to support the work of its highly-successful Russell Technology Business Incubator. Through this project, Amped will integrate family literacy programming into the business incubator to create a unique program that fosters both entrepreneurship and the building of generational wealth. The pilot will launch in January 2026.



In Grand Rapids, Michigan, the Literacy Center of West Michigan has focused on foundational work to strengthen systems alignment, build internal capacity, and design tools to deepen family engagement across institutions. In partnership with West Michigan Works and Global Detroit, the Literacy Center is working to more closely connect to sector-specific employment pathways, directly supporting NCFL's goal of expanding family literacy into economic systems.



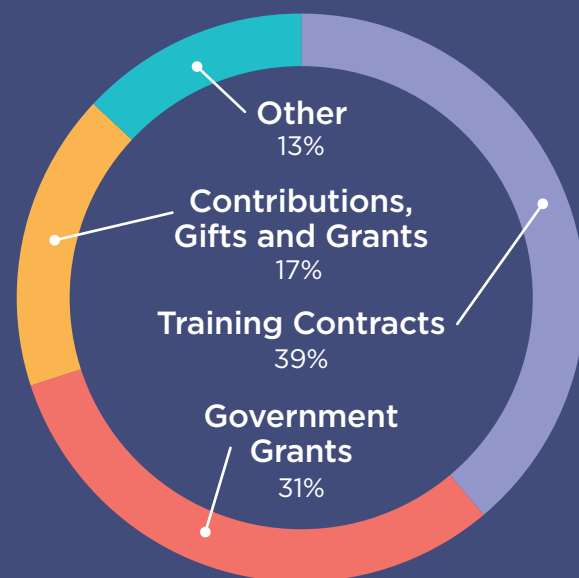
In Huntsville, Alabama, Village of Promise will be utilizing SDIF funds to develop a Family Learning Community® (FLC). This new FLC will work to increase access to educational opportunities and strengthen leadership and engagement among parenting adults and caregivers while cultivating strong relationships between families, schools, and community partners.

FINANCIAL REPORTING

July 1, 2024 — June 30, 2025

Income

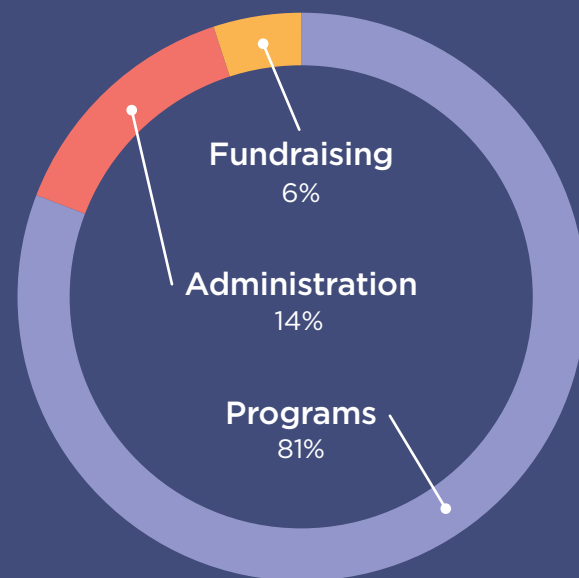
Training Contracts	\$5,245,949
Government Grants	\$4,170,357
Contributions, Gifts and Grants	\$2,243,103
Other	\$1,672,900
Total	\$13,332,309



INCOME

Expenses

Programs	\$9,946,108
Administration	\$1,670,204
Fundraising	\$621,860
Total	\$12,238,172



EXPENSES

Change in Net Assets	\$1,094,137
Net Assets End of Year	\$19,403,431

SUPPORTERS



The William R. Kenan, Jr.
Charitable Trust



DONORS

\$1 Million+

The Commonwealth of Kentucky
Toyota
U.S. Department of Education

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