THIRD-GRADE READING
SUCCESS MATTERS
Reading proficiency by the end of third grade is a key predictor of high school graduation and career success. Yet every year, more than 80 percent of children from low-income families miss this crucial milestone. The statistics are even worse for low-income dual language learners and children of color.

Launched in 2010, the GLR Campaign is a collaborative effort of funders, nonprofit partners, states and communities across the nation to turn this around and put children on the path for success. Our goal: By 2020, a dozen states or more will increase by at least 100 percent the number of children from low-income families reading proficiently by the end of third grade.

With that goal in mind, the GLR Campaign will seek “wins” in the form of:

- Broad-based support for and investment in “on track” child development, learning and literacy across the early years and early grades;
- Widespread community engagement, civic action and citizen service to find and implement community solutions to barriers to student success; and
- Local, state and federal policy reforms to strengthen, scale and sustain improved child outcomes and school success for children in low-income families.

To find out more, go to www.gradelevelreading.net.
**GOAL:** By 2020, a dozen states or more will increase by at least 100% the number of children from low-income families reading proficiently at the end of third grade.

**CORE ASSURANCES**

**ASSURANCE #1**

Quality teaching for every child in every setting every day.

**ASSURANCE #2**

Seamless systems of care, services and family supports for children, from birth through third grade.

**ASSURANCE #3**

Community solutions (school readiness, attendance and summer learning) to improve outcomes for the children least likely to succeed in the early grades.
In July 2012, the Campaign launched a Network of 124 communities as charter members representing 34 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Since then, the Network has continued to grow, with new communities on-boarded every six months.

This diverse and dedicated Network of communities has been hard at work implementing ambitious plans to address three challenges to students’ reading success that are widespread, consequential and amenable to community solutions:

- The Readiness Gap: Too many children from low-income families begin school already far behind.
- The Attendance Gap: Too many children from low-income families miss too many days of school.
- The Summer Slide: Too many children lose ground over the summer months.

The GLR Network serves as: a unique distribution channel for promising ideas, programs and practices; an intentional community of practice that advances the work through peer exchanges, peer learning and peer coaching; and a platform for delivering technical assistance, pursuing scale and accelerating innovation.

Network communities are large, small and mid-sized; rural, urban and suburban; from red, blue and purple states. What they share is a commitment to mobilize local communities to find, own and implement solutions to the challenges that prevent so many low-income children from meeting a critical milestone on the path to success in school and high school graduation — grade-level reading by the end of third grade. In each and all of these communities, local public officials, civic leaders, educators, funders and a wide range of other stakeholders and active citizens have stepped up to invest political capital, dollars, time, talent and sweat equity. This is a remarkable story that still is in the making.
THE NETWORK COMMUNITIES SUPPORT CENTER

The Network Communities Support Center (NCSC) is the arm of the GLR Campaign established to foster success as the GLR Network seeks to develop, implement, share and sustain solutions to the challenges and barriers to grade-level reading by the end of third grade.

The NCSC functions as a hub for peer networking, a broker for technical assistance and consulting support, and an accelerator of local change initiatives. As the hub, NCSC unleashes the potential of the Network itself through peer exchanges, peer learning and peer coaching. NCSC “brokers” technical assistance and consulting services from a broad array of public, private and social sector providers. And by pursuing opportunities such as the All-America City Award competition, the NCSC advances and accelerates the pace and scope of local initiatives.

The NCSC’s key implementation partners include Attendance Works, National League of Cities, National Summer Learning Association and United Way Worldwide.

Over the next 18 months, the NCSC’s technical assistance, capacity-building and tool development activities will be organized around helping Network member communities to:

- Refresh and refine the Community Solutions Action Plans (CSAPs) to re-energize the stakeholders to focus on engaging parents and integrating health.
- Set the targets, identify the indicators, deploy the strategies, build the capacities and obtain the tools needed for implementation.
- Join, build and sustain robust practice and learning for action communities to accelerate the diffusion of the best ideas, programs and solutions.
- Aggregate existing and new resources needed for high-fidelity replication and scaling of the most promising programs and solutions in places with strong plans.
142 communities, representing 39 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
GRADE-LEVEL READING NETWORK COMMUNITIES

ALABAMA
Montgomery
West Alabama/Tuscaloosa

ARIZONA *
Flagstaff
Goodyear
Greater Phoenix
Mesa
Phoenix
Santa Cruz County
Tucson, including Sahuarita
Yuma

ARKANSAS *
Eudora
Little Rock
Marvell
Pulaski County
Springdale

CALIFORNIA
Berkeley
Buena Park
Chula Vista
Fresno
Kern County
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Oakland
Pacoima Community Initiative, Los Angeles
Richmond
Sacramento
Salinas
San Francisco
San Jose
Santa Cruz County
Stockton
Tahoe Truckee Community

COLORADO
City and County of Denver
Longmont

CONNECTICUT
Branford
Bridgeport
Bristol
Chaplin
Danbury
Harford
Meriden
New Britain
Norwalk
Plymouth
Torrington
Vernon
Winchester

FLORIDA
Delray Beach
Gainesville/Alachua County
Jacksonville/Duval County
Miami-Dade County
Orlando
Palm Beach County
Sarasota
Tallahassee, on behalf of
Several Communities
Statewide
Tampa/Hillsborough County
Vero Beach

GEORGIA
Atlanta
Communities of Coastal
Georgia Foundation
(Brunswick)
Savannah

HAWAII *
Statewide

IDaho *
Statewide

ILLINOIS
Chicago
Waukegan

INDIANA
Fort Wayne
Greater Lafayette
Indianapolis
Muncie
Richmond

IOWA
Ames
Council Bluffs
Des Moines
Dubuque
Marshalltown

IOWA & ILLINOIS
Quad Cities (Davenport)

KANSAS
City of El Dorado
Shawnee County

KENTUCKY
Louisville

LOUISIANA
New Orleans

MAINE
Portland

MARYLAND
Baltimore

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston
Holyoke
Pittsfield
Springfield
Worcester

MICHIGAN
Ann Arbor
Detroit
Kent County

MISSISSIPPI
Gulfport

MISSOURI
Kansas City

NEVADA
Las Vegas
Northern Nevada and the
Sierra (Reno)

NEW JERSEY
Camden
Carteret
Newark
Paterson

NEW MEXICO
Doña Ana County/Mesilla

NEW YORK
Buffalo
Madison County
New York City
Rochester
Syracuse

NORTH CAROLINA
Mecklenburg County/
Charlotte
Southern Pines
Wake County

OHIO
Montgomery County/Dayton

OHIO & KENTUCKY
Cincinnati and Northern
Kentucky

OKLAHOMA
Enid
Oklahoma City

OREGON
Eugene
Multnomah County/Portland
Wallowa County

PENNSYLVANIA
Allegheny County
Lehigh Valley
Reading

PUERTO RICO
San Juan

RHODE ISLAND
Providence

SOUTH CAROLINA
Lexington and Richland
Counties

TENNESSEE
Memphis

TEXAS
Arlington-Mansfield
Austin
Brownsville
Houston
San Antonio
Waco
Wharton, Colorado &
Matagorda counties

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
St. Thomas

UTAH
Clearfield, Kearns, Park City,
and South Salt Lake
Salt Lake City

VIRGINIA
Alexandria
Petersburg
Richmond
Roanoke
Virginia Beach

WASHINGTON
Anacortes
Bellevue
Seattle and the South King
County cities of Auburn,
Burien, Federal Way, Kent,
Renton, SeaTac, and Tukwila
Tacoma

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Washington, D.C.

WISCONSIN
Eau Claire
Milwaukee

* Statewide campaigns

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