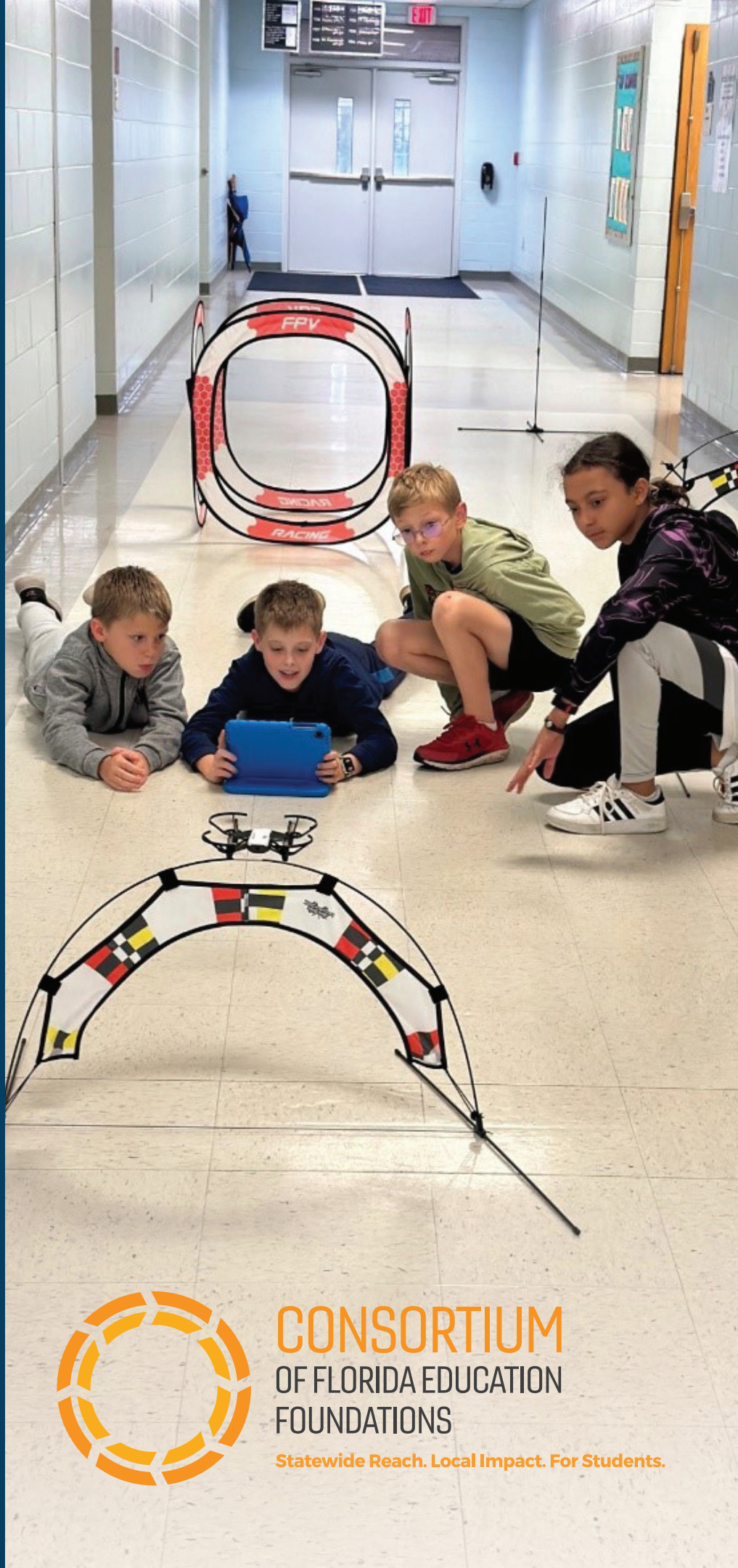


# 2023 IMPACT REPORT

Taking Aim  
at Student  
Success from  
Coast to Coast



**CONSORTIUM**  
OF FLORIDA EDUCATION  
FOUNDATIONS

Statewide Reach. Local Impact. For Students.

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*About the Cover Photo:  
Okaloosa Public Schools Foundation - Strengthening the Academic Ability, Physical Health, and Financial Literacy of Okaloosa County Students*

## Mission

We connect individuals, organizations, and financial resources to build the capacity and impact of member local education foundations.

## Vision

We envision a state where every student and teacher in all schools succeed.

## Beliefs

We believe that engaged and connected communities lead to teacher and student success.

We believe that a high-functioning local education foundation is essential for school districts and communities to close gaps and ensure educational success for all students.

# Here We Grow!

This year was a pivotal one for our Consortium – one of unprecedented growth and increased impact.

We started the year with exciting new work to build student resiliency and brought on two new staff members to facilitate that effort. We entered into a partnership with the New Worlds Reading Initiative and 22 of our members to access high-quality books and improve literacy skills for students. We reimagined one of our quarterly membership conferences as “ConnectED” -- a convening of national and state leaders with our local education foundations for learning and networking on today’s key education issues.

Through it all, we’ve maintained our culture of collaboration and respect for local context and community that has been the cornerstone of our organization for 30 years.

You’re receiving this report because we view you as our partner in the important work of innovating learning and powering the potential of students. We invite you to grab a cup of coffee and read and reflect on the impact of Florida’s local education foundations from coast-to-coast!



*Jean Vansmith (Seminole), Membership Chair*

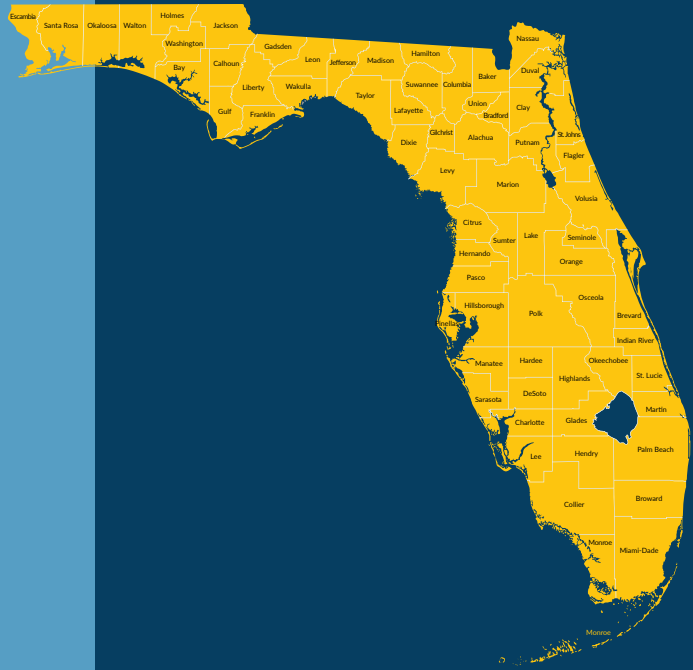
# Executive Committee

Jean Vansmith (Seminole), *Membership Chair*  
Jennifer Vigne (Sarasota), *Immediate Past Chair*  
Kim Jowell (Pinellas), *Vice-Chair, Organization*  
Rachael Tutwiler-Fortune (Duval), *Vice-Chair, Finance*  
Shea Ciriago (Broward), *Member At-Large*  
Eric Clark (Leon), *Member At-Large*  
Shaunda Burdette (Citrus), *Member At-Large*  
Chuck Licis-Masson (Monroe), *Member At-Large*  
Meghan Magamoll (Marion), *Member At-Large*

# Staff



Mary Chance, *President/CEO*  
Tracy Burger, *Director of Organization and Member Development*  
Makayla Buchanan, *Director of Engagement and Partnerships*  
Julie Bokor, PhD, *Program Manager*  
Chris Clore, *Operations and Events Coordinator*  
Rena McCann, *Accounting and Grant Compliance Coordinator*



Our network includes an education foundation in nearly all of Florida's 67 county-wide school districts. Collectively, Consortium member education foundations serve 99.5% of Florida's 3 million K-12 students.

*Executive Director Leadership Retreat – June 2023, Sarasota*



# A Trusted Convener to Bring Communities Together

Today's reality: There is no shortage of wedge issues in education these days that can stall progress for our schools.

How can communities bring people together for the common good of students? Local education foundations provide an apolitical forum for action that matters and are increasingly being called on to build the social fabric of communities and foster long-term interest in their schools.

We've had a front row seat to witness the positive convening power of local education foundations in Florida school districts of all sizes in the past year.

There are only 700 students and three public schools in Jefferson County, a district challenged in recent years with leadership changes and financial woes. Yet when the **Jefferson County Educational Foundation** invited the community to come together to "Restore the Roar" – an event to foster pride and celebrate the impact of teacher grants – 200 people filled the school cafeteria.



Representative Allison Tant (District 9) greets teachers and staff at Jefferson's 'Restore the Roar' event.

Representative Allison Tant (District 9), other local officials and business leaders gathered with teachers and school support staff to hear the impact of foundation-funded grants that empowered teachers like U.S. History teacher Dr. Willet Boyer. He takes students on archeological digs, finding and documenting artifacts that tell the story of Florida's plantations, with supplies and transportation paid for through a foundation grant.

"My students are learning history by actually helping to discover it," said Dr. Boyer. "There's been very little excavation done on plantation sites, and discoveries by students are ending up in professional archeology publications."

At the celebration event, local restaurants catered a buffet dinner, and each teacher and staff member received a gift bag presented with heartfelt appreciation from the community. Jefferson's entirely volunteer-led foundation board has secured more than \$208,000 for innovative initiatives and student support.

Across the state, the **Jacksonville Public Education Fund (JPEF)** frequently exercises their convening power in the large, urban Duval County School District. Their biennial EDTalk forums draw up to 400 community members with national speakers on key topics like student resiliency and local panelists providing community context. They even started their strategic planning process this year with a community forum to shape and inform their priorities.

"We heard loud and clear that the community needs us to be the convener and they want the chance to weigh in with their aspirations and goals for our students and schools," said Roderica Johnson, Director of Engagement and Partnerships for JPEF. "We have the opportunity to center students in the conversation and not get bogged down with distractions like those our school district partners have to manage."

Those deep roots in the community position JPEF to be a trusted voice, one that takes the long view for students and embraces the inevitable changes in the education landscape.

With the expansion of school choice this year, JPEF's data and research team developed a guide to help parents navigate and choose from among an increasing array of options for their children. Their recent Urban Education Symposium told the story of their inner-city schools, shining a light on challenges and inviting the community to look to the future with them.

Corporate leaders and elected officials continue to take notice of the positive forum for action that local education foundations represent and find it's a table they want to be at.

"Education foundations are not about personal agendas. The people on the board have different opinions, but collectively they represent the community's deep interest in providing meaningful support for schools and teachers," said Brian Corson, Regional Vice President for

VyStar Credit Union and a past president of **Investing in Kids (INK!)**, the education foundation for the St. Johns County School District.

Representative Dana Trabulsy (District 84) supported the education foundations in Indian River and St. Lucie counties as a business leader for many years. Now an elected official, she was recently named as a board member of the **St. Lucie County Education Foundation**.

"Education foundations can bring people together for positive work that matters for our communities, and I'm thrilled to be a part of it," said Trabulsy.



Participants and panelists dig into barriers for student success at Jacksonville's Urban Education Symposium .

# Innovating Learning & Engaging Students

When Kevin Hendrick took the helm as superintendent of Pinellas County Schools in July 2022, one of his top concerns was improving student attendance. Chronic absenteeism – defined as missing 10% of school days due to excused or unexcused absences – is clearly linked to student success. COVID exacerbated the issue, and Superintendent Hendrick and other school leaders shared concerns that patterns and habits could continue and impact students and our society for a lifetime, including when young people enter the workforce.

One of Mr. Hendrick’s solutions? Give students a reason to come to school, through innovative partnerships and engaging activities through the **Pinellas Education Foundation** that they don’t want to miss including Enterprise Village, a self-contained economic education program that provides hands-on learning experiences for elementary students.

“Anytime I talk to a group of parents, the ones who went to Pinellas schools can remember every detail of their Enterprise Village experience -- what job they had, the purchases they made and what they learned about managing money,” said Hendrick.

Also located within the Stavros Institute and involving dozens of Tampa Bay area businesses, Finance Park gives middle school students another memorable and engaging learning experience through a reality-based, hands-on simulation in personal finance.

Pinellas high school students can find learning motivation through the Next Generation Entrepreneurs Program where they can develop and pitch their innovative product or service with support from area business leaders and compete Shark Tank-style for \$10,000 in prize money!





And who needs to skip class to go fishing when you can do it at school while learning essential science standards?

The “Book, Line and Thinkers” program is made possible through the partnership of the **Citrus County Education Foundation**, Sodium Fishing Gear, and local charter captains in Crystal River and Homosassa. Together, they developed a day of “playing hooky” into an educational fishing field trip that reinforces science and math standards and provides memories that will last a lifetime.

Students observe wildlife and local vegetation, try their hand at fishing, and learn through inquiry. They rotate through standards-based educational stations such as the Water Cycle, Characteristics of the Earth, Photosynthesis, and Animal Classification.

The program is the brainchild of former Homosassa Elementary School teacher Mike Baize who initially conceived of it in 2009 as a more affordable end-of-the-year field trip for his students.

“We had been traveling to theme parks for our field trip, but I noticed that only 40% of my students could afford to go,” said Baize. “I also knew that even though we live in a

coastal community, many of my students have never been fishing. So, I called on some of my fishing captain friends, and we organized a trip for my class that’s now become an opportunity for all fifth graders in our district thanks to the education foundation.”

Now a full-time boat captain, Baize remains instrumental in pulling off the initiative each year, involving 28 boat captains in two marinas over eight days each January to take approximately 1,400 fifth graders fishing. He also keeps his eye on the academic rewards of the program.

“Between 2011-2015, our fifth-grade science scores at Homosassa Elementary were in the top 10% in the state,” said Baize. “I wanted to expand this opportunity to all our students throughout the county. Our teachers work so hard, so I wanted to help reinforce what they do in the classroom into the real world.”

**Citrus County Education Foundation** leaders have generously shared the program model, encouraging other education foundations to adapt it to their communities and local waterways. This year, with support from **Duke Energy**, the Consortium will create, develop and share curriculum kits for others to implement the program.

# Building Resilient Students Through Engaged Communities

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has adopted a proactive approach to fostering student resiliency skills in alignment with the state's new health education standards and has called on the Consortium to help "Build Resiliency Through the Community." In recognition of the Consortium's high level of accountability and strong outcomes with the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program for more than 20 years, the FDOE entrusted the Consortium with \$21.3 million in December 2022, to infuse standards-aligned resources and build networks of local support for students statewide.

Drawing upon their community knowledge and connections, Florida's education foundations are convening key partners and working in consultation with district school safety specialists and mental health coordinators to develop and implement locally-driven initiatives in consultation with Consortium staff and in alignment with FDOE goals.

## Local Program Snapshots:



### Broward Education Foundation

Incorporating parent voice and choice, and in partnership with community-based partners, the school district's parent advocate coalition will expand to include facilitated Family Town Hall meetings and an annual Family Fun Day, all with a focus on building student resiliency. One-on-one advising and bootcamps for high school youth providing wraparound support for college, career and life readiness and perseverance will continue through the school year.



### Clay Education Foundation

Leaders welcomed 3,500 incoming ninth graders back to school with a sling bag filled with resources to promote coping skills and self-care. Additionally, all youth-serving mental health counselors in the community and schools received a basket full of updated community resources for families and communication tools to use with students, including mini-journals and other downloadable resources from CPALMS, Florida's online toolbox for information, vetted resources and interactive tools for educators and students.

### Education Foundation of Okeechobee

Through the Sheriff's Office Public Safety Cadet Program positive relationships between youth and law enforcement are fostered integrating key resiliency lessons with an emphasis on ethics, leadership, and civic responsibility. Additionally, the District's Dispatch and Fire CTE Program will be expanded and equip students with vital career skills, while emphasizing community service and citizenship.







### **The Education Foundation of Putnam County**

Camp Common Ground brings students together for one week in the summer to build teamwork skills and self-care techniques. Campers work in small groups and participate in friendship-building collaborative games, arts, nature walks, cooking classes, robotics and more. After a successful 2023 inaugural camp with 85 third through eighth-grade students, plans are already underway for summer 2024.

### **Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools**

Trainers from the Peace and Justice Institute conducted a PACES (Positive & Adverse Childhood Experiences) training for all Lake Howell High teachers and staff in preparation for the new school year. Parent workshops and student summits are being held throughout the school year as well as additional training for teachers and staff to promote protective factors and develop resiliency skills.

## **Why Resilience Matters**

Nearly 20% of children today are experiencing significant mental, emotional, or behavioral symptoms. Through protective factors and developing coping skills, children and youth can learn to be more resilient – even with a heavy load of risk factors.

Leaders of the School Mental Health Collaborative at the University of South Florida are encouraging education foundations to shift from the traditional approach of focusing on the social, emotional, or behavioral disturbances of referred youth to a public health approach of promoting psychological well-being of all youth with protective support for those at elevated risk for academic and emotional problems.

In their address to education foundation leaders and community partners at the Consortium's 2023 ConnectED conference, co-leader of the Collaborative Dr. Nathaniel von der Embse drew a through line from student resilience to academic achievement.

"A meta-analysis of 270,034 K-12 students found that those who possessed resiliency skills demonstrated an 11% gain in academic achievement," said Dr. von der Embse. "We see positive changes in attitude, behavior and academics today while helping students build skills that will serve them as adults in terms of life satisfaction and overall well-being."

Dr. von der Embse and his colleague Dr. Evan Dart applauded the focus of the FDOE in taking a holistic, positive psychology approach to building student resiliency, acknowledging it will take strong community partnerships working in with schools to reframe mental health education.



# The Power of a 1:1 Match

The **School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program**, adopted by the Florida Legislature in 2000, is a cornerstone of the success of Florida's local education foundations.

State funds are provided as challenge grants to public school district education foundations for programs that serve low-performing students, technical career education, literacy initiatives, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) Education initiatives, increased teacher quality and/or increased graduation rates.

Through the 2022-23 school year, the State of Florida had appropriated nearly \$70 million, which has been leveraged with private-sector contributions to total more than \$156 million for eligible local projects.

**In  
2022-  
2023:**

- **\$15.5 million** total investment
- **\$6 million** in State allocation matched with more than **\$9.8 million** in private-sector investment
- **60** school districts participated, and **112** projects funded
- **2,080,486** total students and **121,561** teachers impacted
- **99%** of Florida's K-12 public school students served by participating education foundations

## Career and Technical Education

OCPS Internship Program, **Foundation for Orange County Public Schools**

This project provided opportunities for students to participate in internships with local businesses and nonprofit organizations for hands-on experience in the work world.

100% of participating students returned to CTE programs for their senior year.

## Literacy

Bookmark Buddies Mentoring Program, **Education Foundation for Osceola County**

This literacy mentoring program matches trained volunteer mentors with struggling third-grade readers to meet weekly and practice reading skills.

74% of participating at-risk students advanced to the fourth grade.

## Low-Performing Students

Graduate College and Career Ready, **Monroe County Education Foundation**

This project supported low-income and at-risk middle and high school students in the district, ensuring that they are on a pathway towards graduation.

80% improvement in GPA of students participating in the program over a period of 3 to 6 years.

## Increasing Graduation Rates

College & Career Preparation & Technical Pathways, **Champions for Learning (Collier)**

This project equipped and prepared rising 11th- and 12th- grade students for post-secondary success through academic support, college and career planning, leadership development, college access, coaching, service learning, financial literacy, and work experience activities.

94% of participating students completed the FAFSA.





## School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program

### STEM

Building it Better in Bradford, **Bradford County Education Foundation**

The objective of this project was to improve academic performance in school by providing supplemental activities and support for students. This was achieved through initiatives like Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention workshops which provided hands-on STEM experiences for fifth-grade students to spark interest in science.

90% of participating fifth-grade students indicated an increased interest in science as a result of participating in activities at the Cade.



### Teaching Quality

Mission-Driven Leadership, **Pasco Education Foundation**

This project supported two initiatives to develop strong and committed leaders throughout the District: Leader in Me at an elementary school and a district-wide Teacher Leader Academy.

95% of participating teachers found that their experience helped to expand or improve their instruction.



### Classroom Grants

42% of this year's Matching Grant projects supported classroom and school grants. Each project included an application review process and reporting of student impact.

Education Enhancement Classroom Grants, **Baker County Education Foundation**

32% of participating low-performing students improved their grade in specific subject area.



### Teacher Supply Stores

13% of this year's Matching Grant projects supported teacher resource stores. These projects included physical and/or online stores where teachers shop for school supplies for their classrooms to ensure students have what they need to fully engage in learning.

Tools 4 Seminole Schools, **Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools**

92% of participating teachers agree or strongly agree having resources available through the Tools 4 Seminole Schools make it more likely that they will continue to teach.



## Engaging Legislators Year-Round from Coast-to-Coast



Rep. Dana Trabulsy (District 84) and St. Lucie County Education Foundation President Thom Jones co-present at the Consortium's inaugural ConnectED conference.



Rep. Kelly Skidmore (District 92) joins the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County for a tour of their Red Apple Supplies Free Teacher Resource Store.



A former board member for the FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools, Rep. Tom Leek (District 28), reconnects with Executive Director Shimene Shephard on priorities for the year.



Senator Jennifer Bradley (District 6) and Clay Education Foundation President/CEO Carolyn Krall connect during Consortium Capitol Days.



Pasco Education Foundation shares how the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program innovates learning with Senator Danny Burgess (District 23).

# Increasing Capacity & Fostering Collaboration

For an all-volunteer education foundation, a key step in building organizational capacity might be hiring their first help. Others may need to invest in technology or learn new ways of doing things to get to the next level. Established education foundations may find they can't sustain their momentum without new staff or facilities.

Whatever the lift is, community commitment to the mission, bold leadership and collaboration with peers and partners have all been part of how we've experienced capacity-building in our network this year from coast-to-coast.

Consortium staff engage with members 1:1 to support strategic planning and board development, marketing and brand development, program impact, and leadership and relationship coaching. From Escambia to Miami-Dade, members took advantage of staff experience and expertise to strengthen and grow their foundations.

## A \$15 Million 'Brick by Brick' Capital Campaign Sets Foundation for Future in Palm Beach

The Education Foundation of Palm Beach County recently broke ground on a 32,000 sq. ft. facility that will serve as an education innovation hub and professional development training facility for teachers and allow for expansion of their Red Apple Supplies Free Teacher Resource Store.



## Data Walks Bring Board Members Together for Planning

Public Education Foundation of Marion County board members come together regularly for deep dives into foundation program impact data. These interactive sessions inform members about how and where programs are serving students best and helps them plan for future foundation initiatives.



## Quarterly Member Conferences and Online Opportunities Build Capacity Year-Round

Florida's education foundation leaders connect peer-to-peer and learn about new resources to build their organizational capacity through in-person conferences, webinars, affinity groups, virtual "coffee chats" and learning communities.



*Capacity building is not just about the capacity of a nonprofit today: it's about the nonprofit's ability to deliver on its mission effectively now and in the future. Capacity building is an investment in the effectiveness and future sustainability of a nonprofit. – National Council on Nonprofits*



## Starting from Scratch in Holmes County

In the spring of 2021, Consortium staff was invited to a meeting in Bonifay, FL by Superintendent Buddy Brown as he brought together 11 motivated community members to discuss the formation of an education foundation.

“We experienced growth in our rural community during the pandemic including former students returning with their own families to start farms and businesses,” said Brown. “We know strong public schools are key to keeping that momentum going and having our own education foundation is a great way to positively engage our community.”

Business owners, government leaders and parents already underwriting school projects were eager and interested in learning how they could formally organize and build support for their 3,200 students.

Fast forward two years later, the Holmes County Education Foundation is established and growing support from local businesses, organizations, and individuals to enhance learning opportunities for students and better connect their community to classrooms. They are already embracing opportunities through the Consortium, including accessing Florida Prepaid Jump Start Scholarship Program matching funds and embracing the opportunity to bolster student resiliency. They have also supported summer learning camps and started a classroom grant program.

“As President of the Holmes County Education Foundation, my mission for the past three years has been to empower students and teachers within our school district,” said Matt Tate. “Through grants and local support, we’ve built a bridge of opportunity and support, ensuring every student has the chance to thrive and every teacher has the tools they need to inspire.

## Collaborations with Statewide Partners Increase Local Impact

**Volunteer Florida** called on local education foundations to facilitate Florida Disaster Fund support for teachers, school staff and families – presenting \$700,000 to seven Big Bend area education foundations after Hurricane Idalia. Funds will be awarded to impacted members of school communities to help with unexpected out-of-pocket expenses.

The Consortium is also partnering with the **New Worlds Reading Initiative**, Florida’s free program that supports students in strengthening literacy skills, building reading confidence, and encouraging a lifelong love of reading. New Worlds Reading delivers monthly free books and activities to eligible VPK students who are not yet meeting age-appropriate standards according to FAST Star Early Literacy and K-5th-grade students who are not yet reading on grade level in a Florida public or charter school. Consortium members are hosting 160 New Worlds Reading literacy events in 22 school districts this school year.



# Preparing Students for Life After High School

## How Ryan's Future 'Turned on a Taco'!

Ryan, a senior at Okeechobee High School with a 4.56 weighted GPA, was confident he could excel in college. He stayed up late when necessary to complete homework and believes his only limitation is his mindset.

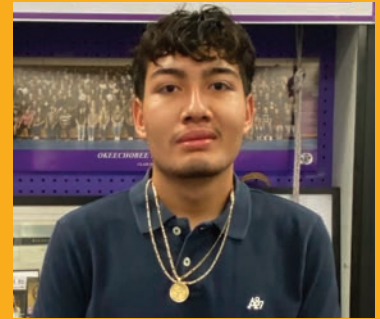
"I don't settle for anything less than my best," he declares. Although wanting to go to college, Ryan had no idea how to get there.

Enter the **Education Foundation of Okeechobee** and a taco truck.

Ryan is a first-generation American whose parents emigrated from Mexico before completing high school. His parents are a source of inspiration for Ryan, striving to accomplish their dreams through hard work but facing language barriers and challenges every day. It is their hope that Ryan and his siblings take advantage of the opportunities to further their education that they themselves did not have growing up.

It was at a FAFSA workshop hosted by the education foundation that Ryan and his family first realized there was government funding to support his dream of attending college. Enticed to attend the evening event by the promise of local taco truck fare, Ryan completed the required paperwork and ultimately received a PELL Grant worth \$6,895 to attend college the next fall.

But for the education foundation's participation in the Consortium's "Building College & Career Readiness Cultures in Rural Florida Communities" cohort, Ryan, and students like him, may not have gotten the support they needed to further their education.



## How Shania Got a Lift on Her Future

In her senior year at Godby High School in Tallahassee, Shania spent a lot of time in the office of her school counselor, determined to be the first in her family to go straight to college from high school. When she learned she was eligible for a new scholarship offered through the **Foundation for Leon County Schools**, it became a game-changer for her.



"This scholarship lifted a huge financial burden for me. I was able to start classes right away in the summer and really focus on school," said Shania. Enrolled at FAMU, Shania is studying broadcast journalism and political

science with an eye on law school in her future.

The life-changing scholarship Shania received is the result of the Consortium's partnership with the **Florida Prepaid College Foundation** which allows local education foundations to access prepaid scholarships for tuition at Florida public colleges and universities for students with demonstrated need at a nearly 3:1 value for the financial investment.

For students like Shania – one of 458 "Jump Start" scholarship recipients in the Class of 2023 – the investment in her potential is priceless.

**Members participate in Florida College Access Network’s 2023 Talent Strong Summit**, including participants and peer mentors of the Consortium’s “Building College and Career Readiness Cultures in Rural Florida” who shared their student successes in a packed breakout session.



**Students “Explore and Excel” in healthcare careers** through projects coordinated by 14 education foundations with support from the **Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation**. More than 4,000 students were directly impacted during year one of this two-year, first-of-its-kind Consortium initiative.



**Classroom to Careers Flagship Programs at all 11 schools in Flagler County** engage students in discovering career paths in finance, culinary arts, aeronautics, fire service, agronomy and more. Funded by United Way of Volusia and Flagler Counties, the **Flagler County Education Foundation** partners with business, government, and postsecondary school leaders to make impactful career connections for students in high-demand, local industries.



**The Hillsborough Education Foundation opened a SCOPE Program at King High School** with plans to open a center at another high school this year. Operated by foundation staff, Student Center of Post-Secondary Exploration (SCOPE) centers provide students with career and college guidance, assistance with financial aid, college application support, SAT/ACT preparation and technical/workforce credential assistance.



# Awards & Accolades

## Consortium Honored as 'Outstanding Community Organization'

Thanks to a nomination by the Foundation for Leon County Schools, the Consortium was honored by the Big Bend Association of Fundraising Professionals at their National Philanthropy Day celebration as the "Outstanding Community Organization" honoree.



## Outstanding Partner 2023 – Volunteer Florida

Florida's local education foundations foster deep public/private-sector partnerships to innovate learning and power student potential in nearly every county-wide school district throughout the state. Countless partners are involved in this work, and each year the Consortium recognizes an outstanding statewide partner that elevates the impact of local education foundations coast-to-coast.

Through the Florida Disaster Fund, Volunteer Florida entrusted Florida's local education foundations with \$5.7 million through 13 Consortium member local education foundations to provide substantive relief and recovery support for teachers, school staff and students impacted by Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Idalia this past year.

While the Consortium has facilitated relief and recovery funding from a variety of partners for many years when disasters impact multiple school districts, the Volunteer Florida Disaster Fund grants allowed education foundations to provide an unprecedented level of support for those impacted in school communities by both hurricanes.



## Invested in Excellence Award – Anna Babcock

Anna Babcock, gifted education teacher and St. Lucie Public Schools 2023 Teacher of the Year, received statewide recognition and an award of \$1,000 from the Consortium and Florida Power & Light Company as the 2023 "Invested in Excellence" recipient for seeking additional resources and developing new strategies to innovate learning for students.



## STAR Superintendent and School Board Member Awards

"Star" school board members and superintendents actively champion their education foundation and make it a priority to increase business and community investment and involvement in their schools. Nominated by local education foundation leaders, these school district leaders are surprised with the recognition at the annual Florida School Boards Association and Florida Association of District School Superintendents joint conference.

Dr. Jon Price, Superintendent in St. Lucie County (pictured left) was recognized for his visionary leadership and collaborative spirit, elevating the education foundation as a valued thought partner and community connector, and enabling innovative ideas to flourish, such as a new AI program for students.



Mr. Marcus Nicolas, a School Board member in Leon County (pictured right) was honored for his work in championing the "Internet for All" program, supporting fundraising efforts that raised \$40,000 for Title I schools, and establishing a donation portal to support schools in his district.





## 2023 Consortium Champion – Eric Clark (Leon)

The Jim McKenzie Consortium Champion Award is presented annually to a local education foundation leader who exemplifies the Consortium's values of collaboration, connection, leadership and excellence. The honoree is surprised with the award and recognized by their peers for actively engaging with the Consortium and sharing their time and resources with colleagues.

Eric Clark, Executive Director at the Foundation for Leon County Schools, was nominated for this year's award for his consistent engagement with the Consortium, introducing resources and solutions to colleagues, and bringing student and teacher voices to the organization's days at the Capitol. He serves as a Member at Large on the Consortium's Executive Committee and strategically leverages Consortium funding and learning opportunities to expand support for Leon County students and teachers.



## 2023 Staff Superstar – Becky Miller (Seminole)

Becky Miller, Tools 4 Seminole Schools Store Supervisor at the Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools, receives statewide recognition as the Consortium's 2023 "Staff Superstar."

The Staff Superstar Award is presented annually to a local education foundation staff member who steps up to support and share resources with their peers throughout the state through the Consortium. Becky was chosen from among 360 staff members of Florida's local education foundations for her leadership through the Teacher Resource Store Affinity Group, sharing tips and information with peer foundations for their own adoption.



## 2023 Joe Rizzo Learner & Leader- Alaina Barron (Okeechobee)

The Joe Rizzo Learner & Leader Award is presented annually to a local education foundation leader who is active in their own learning and development, while serving as a leader in their organization and through engagement with the Consortium.

Alaina Barron, Executive Director of the Education Foundation of Okeechobee, routinely shares with her colleagues at quarterly conferences and externally to statewide partners, including the 2023 Talent Strong Florida Summit hosted by the Florida College Access Network where she participated in a panel discussion on increasing college and career readiness in rural communities. She is currently a participant in Leadership Florida Education Class 8 and consistently engages in Consortium professional development opportunities.



## Volunteer Florida Excellence in Volunteerism Honoree – Captain Mike Baize

For the seventh year, the Consortium and Volunteer Florida teamed up to surprise a local volunteer with the "Excellence in Volunteerism" award. Captain Mike Baize was recently selected to receive this award from among 14,000 local education foundation volunteers throughout Florida as creator and facilitator of the "Book, Line and Thinkers" program in Citrus County.

The program is made possible through the partnership of the Citrus County Education Foundation, Sodium Fishing Gear, and local charter captains in Crystal River and Homosassa. Together, they developed a day of "playing hooky" into an educational fishing field trip that reinforces science and math standards and provides memories that will last a lifetime.



# 2022-2023 Financial Impact\*

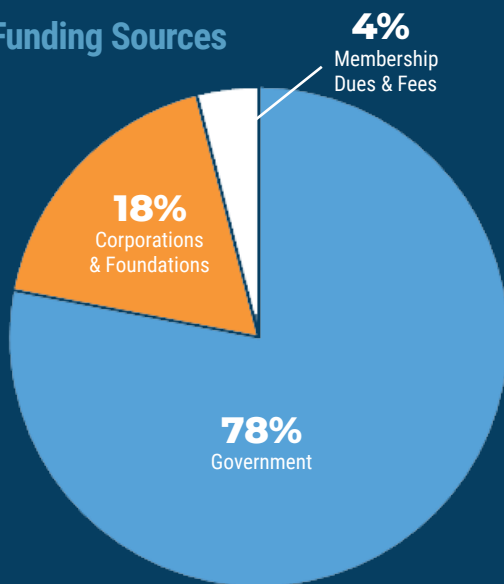
**\$9,067,149** total revenue

**\$8,805,279**  
program expenses

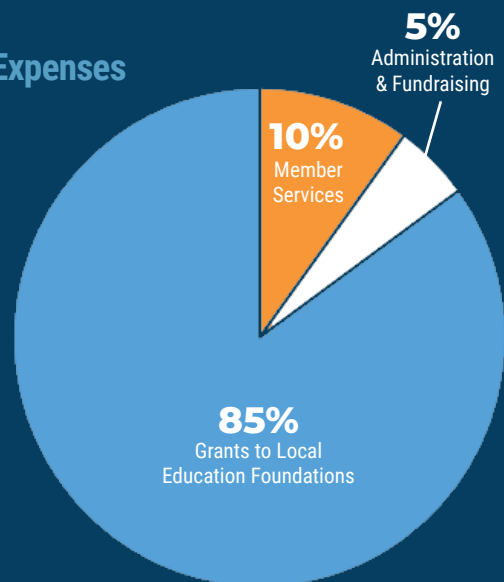
**\$222,379**  
administration &  
fundraising expenses

**\$655,170**  
net assets as of  
June 2023

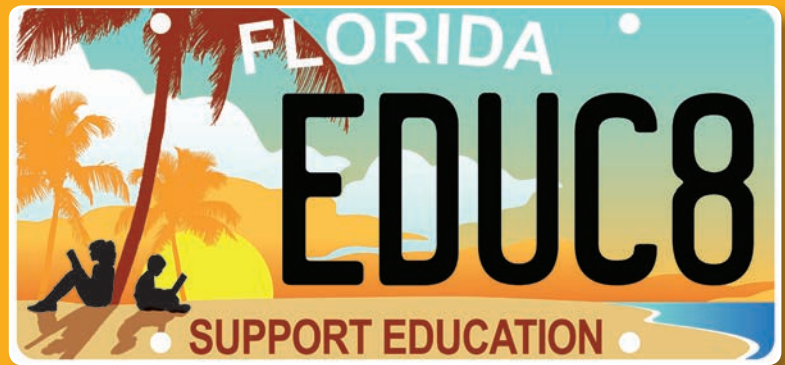
## Funding Sources



## Expenses



## Help Drive Learning Coast-to-Coast



\$20 from every Support Education specialty plate goes directly to school in your county for

- Classroom innovation
- School supplies
- Education enrichment programs
- Student scholarships
- Supporting and recognizing teachers
- Extra help and mentoring for at-risk students

More than \$14 million has been raised for education enhancement since the Consortium introduced the original support education tag in 1994.

Learn more and purchase online at [licensetolearnfl.com](http://licensetolearnfl.com).

## Want Bragging Rights for Your Out-of-State University?



If you want bragging rights for your team, purchase a specialty plate for the University of Georgia and Auburn University at your local tax collector's office. If you're looking to show off your University of Alabama pride, pre-order your tag via the Escambia County tax collector website. Proceeds from all three tags will benefit public education in the county of purchase.

The Consortium serves as the primary link between local education foundations and statewide and national partners who seek to invest in Florida's students. We're uniquely positioned to understand the interests of funders and ensure dollars are invested in classroom opportunities and communities that best align with a partner's goals.

## 2022-2023 Partners

### Direct Impact Partners

Amscot Financial  
AT&T  
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
Florida Lottery  
Florida Power & Light Company  
Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation  
Raymond James Charitable Foundation  
Suncoast Credit Union  
Wells Fargo  
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

### Consortium Champions

Duke Energy Foundation  
Florida Prepaid College Foundation  
HCA Healthcare Foundation  
Helios Education Foundation

### Marketing Partners

Florida Healthy Kids  
Florida Prepaid College Program

### Presenting Partners

AwardSpring  
Backpack Gear  
Bloomerang  
Charity for Change  
EverFI  
Feathr  
Level All  
Publix Super Markets Charities  
Qgiv  
RhythmQ  
School Specialty  
WozEd

### Strategic Advisory Council

Although governed by its members, the Consortium's Strategic Advisory Council of state and national leaders serves as an advisory board to the Consortium, providing insights and helping leaders stay engaged and relevant on key education issues.



Stacy Baier, Helios Education Foundation  
Mark Brewer, Community Foundation of Central Florida  
Kevin Byrne, Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation  
Dan Challener, Public Education Foundation of Chattanooga (TN)  
David Dawkins, Wells Fargo  
Ashley Dietz, Florida Philanthropic Network  
Frank Gettridge, The Philanthropic Collaborative for Education  
LaQuitta Ghent, Duke Energy  
Gordon Gillette, Consultant  
Mike Grego, Former Superintendent Pinellas County Schools  
Charles Hokanson, Consultant  
Andrea Messina, FL School Boards Association  
Karen Moore, Moore Communications  
Susan Moxley, Former Superintendent Lake County Public Schools  
Carolyn Nelson-Goedert, Florida PTA  
Phil Poekert, UF Lastinger Center for Learning  
David Sikes, FL Assn of District School Superintendents  
David Simmons, Attorney and Former FL Legislator  
Pam Stewart, FL League of IB Schools; Former FL Ed. Commissioner  
Nicole Washington, Education Consultant  
Michele Watson, FL Alliance of Children's Councils and Trusts

# CONNECTED

Save the Date: September 19 and 20, 2024



CONSORTIUM  
OF FLORIDA EDUCATION  
FOUNDATIONS

EducationFoundationsFL.org

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