

2020 Annual Report

2019–20 SCHOOL YEAR



THE LITERACY LAB



Our Current Journey: Turning the Page

When Ashley Johnson and Tom Dillon founded The Literacy Lab in 2009, even in their wildest dreams they couldn't have imagined the reality of today – an organization that reaches more than 6,000 children every day through a 350-person team across six states. This year, they decided to begin stepping back from their roles as Co-CEOs to allow for new leadership to guide the next phase of the organization's development. We look forward to sharing more with you as we select our next leadership.

Reiterating our Commitment to Fighting Racial Injustice

We re-affirm that Black Lives Matter, and remember those who have lost their lives because of the color of their skin. Sadly, there are too many to name but they are in our hearts each day.

Justice underpins the mission we pursue daily at The Literacy Lab, and we understand that systemic racism persists partly because a quality education remains disproportionately inaccessible to Black and brown children. The fight against racism, in all its forms, is one that we must take on together.

As a child-serving organization, we think about children across the country who experience the traumatic impact of racism each and every day. We know that the fight for racial justice is a call to all of us to renew our commitments to building a just and equitable world for our children, so they can achieve their dreams.

Thank you for standing with us.

Our Ongoing Response to COVID-19



SPRING

Pre-K: Tutors and Fellows created videos to supplement in-person activities and overcome technological and logistical barriers, joining live instruction anytime they could.

Kindergarten through 3rd grade: The Literacy Lab provided a menu of options to support all school partners in a way that best met their needs, including classroom support, intervention videos, and live virtual tutoring.



SUMMER

Working groups: Our experts used tutors' and Fellows' virtual tutoring experience with all grade levels to create adaptive materials for The Literacy Lab's virtual intervention model for all partner sites in the fall.

Tutors and Fellows received training on virtual interventions and assessments, including live guided practice sessions with trainers. Many regions facilitated supplemental training on the following:

Trauma-Informed Care | Culturally Responsive Family Engagement | Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion | Literacy as a Human Right | Child Safety and Confidentiality | In-Person and Virtual Professionalism



FALL

In-person tutoring resumed at a number of sites, with many sites tutoring their students in pairs of two students and two tutors virtually. Each tutor has a caseload of nearly 10 students.

Each regional team is continuing to work with each partner site to identify additional support methods, including but not limited to Family Literacy Office Hours, Read Alouds, and after-school programming.

This school year will be one of challenge, but also an opportunity for our team to flex its creative muscles as we think beyond the four walls of the classroom.

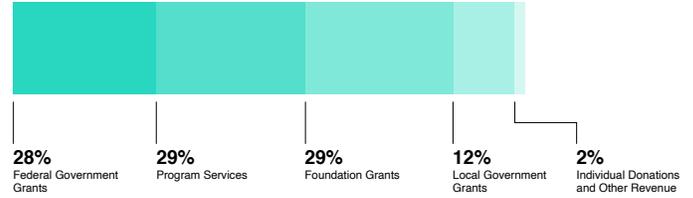
Our Impact

-  **6** regions across the country where Literacy Lab tutors and Leading Men Fellows were placed at partner schools
-  **6,392** students supported by Literacy Lab tutors to reach grade-level reading proficiency and Kindergarten readiness targets
-  **61%** of K-3 students exceeded their growth targets
-  **74%** of alumni survey respondents have worked in education since serving
-  **91%** of AmeriCorps Tutors believe that The Literacy Lab provides an inclusive environment for tutors across different identities
-  **98%** of anonymously surveyed AmeriCorps principals would recommend The Literacy Lab to their colleagues and believe it had a positive impact on students

Careful Use of Resources

Thanks to our committed supporters and our diversified funding model, we have maintained our operating reserve and had more revenue than expenses this year – even in the midst of a pandemic.

Revenue \$13,086,393



Expenses \$12,347,768



Thank You to Our Major Donors

We are grateful to all our donors and partners, especially those who donated \$25,000 or more throughout the course of the year.

Lockhart Vaughan Foundation; Lois & Richard England Family Foundation; Milwaukee Succeeds; Northwestern Mutual Foundation; Philip L. Graham Fund; Richard and Caroline T. Gwathmey Memorial Trust; Richard E. and Nancy P. Marriott Foundation; Select Equity Group Foundation; Sherman Family Foundation; Shlomo Fund; The Aaron and Lillie Straus Foundation; The Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation; The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation; The Philanthropic Initiative; Robins Foundation; The Share Fund; The Stanley H. Durwood Foundation; United Way of Greater Kansas City; United Way of Greater Richmond and Petersburg; Virginia Cretella Mars Foundation; Wells Fargo; Yelp Foundation

A. James and Alice B. Clark Foundation; Abell Foundation; AmeriCorps; Ann Mandel; Anonymous; Baltimore Community Foundation; Bender Foundation; Betsy and Ned Mandel; Citi Foundation; Community Foundation for a Greater Richmond; Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts; Early Education Funders Collaborative; Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation; Funder Collaborative for Reading Success; Greater Milwaukee Foundation; H & R Block Foundation; Hall Family Foundation; Hampton Roads Community Foundation; Hattie M. Strong Foundation; Herb Kohl Educational Foundation; Horning Family Fund; Impact 100 Richmond; The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation; Jack R. Anderson Foundation; John G. and Jean R. Gosnell Foundation;

Thank You to Our Passionate and Dedicated Board

Ned Mandel, Chair; Hugh Cole III; Elizabeth S. Duff; Bailey Edelson; Praveen Jeyarajah; Dara Johnson; Dr. Bweikia Steen; Terri Upshaw

Ex-Officio: Tom Dillon | Ashley Johnson



Strong readers. Strong futures.

Contact Us!

1400 16th Street Northwest, Washington, USA
 communications@theliteracylab.org
 202-567-7082
 theliteracylab.org

