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, nonprofits, government agencies, business leaders, 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 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.
THE CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE-LEVEL READING NETWORK COMMUNITIES

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 (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 implementation partners include Attendance Works, National Civic League, National League of Cities, National Summer Learning Association and United Way Worldwide.

Over the next 18 months, the NCSC is focused on supporting communities in competing for the 2016 All-America City Awards by making progress on school readiness, school attendance, summer learning and grade-level reading.

The NCSC’s technical assistance, capacity-building and tool development activities are designed to help communities:

- Participate in messaging and mobilizing opportunities, such as Summer Learning Day, Attendance Awareness Month, Read Across America Day and National Volunteer Week.

- Refresh and refine the Community Solutions Action Plans (CSAPs) to integrate healthy, on-track development and successful parenting; to collect and disaggregate data; to adopt, expand, replicate and scale proven and promising programs; and to build stronger stakeholder engagement and cross-sector collaboration.

- Join, build and sustain robust peer learning for action networks 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.
152 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**
- Buckeye
- Chandler
- Cochise
- Flagstaff
- Globe-Miami
- Goodyear
- Greater Phoenix
- Mesa
- North Gila County
- Phoenix
- Santa Cruz County
- Scottsdale
- Tempe
- 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
- Pachoman 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
- Colchester
- Danbury
- Hartford
- Meriden
- New Britain
- Norwalk
- Plymouth

**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

**HAWAI’I**
- Statewide

**IDAHO**
- Statewide

**ILLINOIS**
- Chicago
- Waukegan

**INDIANA**
- Fort Wayne
- Greater Lafayette
- Indianapolis
- Muncie
- Richmond

**IANWHA**
- Ames
- Council Bluffs
- Des Moines
- Dubuque
- Marshalltown

**IOWANIA & ILLINOIS**
- Quad Cities (Davenport)

**KANSAS**
- City of El Dorado
- Shawnee County

**KENTUCKY**
- Louisville

**LOUISIANA**
- New Orleans

**MAINE**
- Portland

**MARYLAND**
- Baltimore

**MASSACHUSETTS**
- Boston
- Holyoke
- New Bedford
- 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 and Matagorda Counties

**U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS**
- St. Thomas

**UTAH**
- Clearfield, Kears, 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

---

1 As of July 2014

* Statewide campaigns
GRADELEVELREADING.NET