



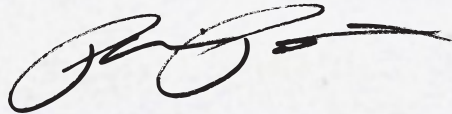
— 2023-2024 —

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

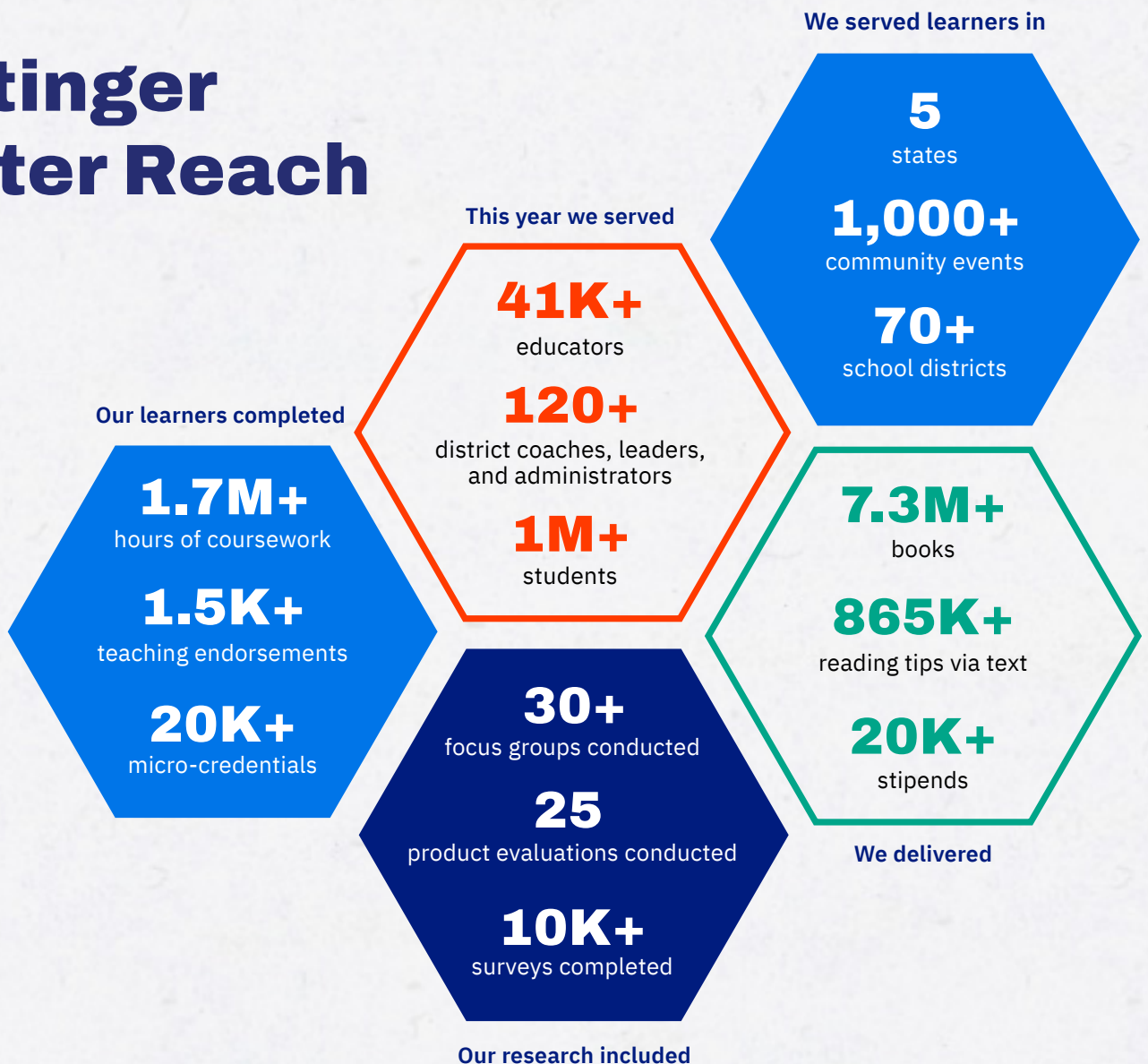
UF | Lastinger Center for Learning
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

From the Director

It was another banner year at the UF Lastinger Center for Learning. Our associates and faculty have been hard at work advancing the quality of education in early learning, literacy, mathematics, and technology & data science. We served educators, administrators, students and their families in every Florida county and continued projects in Louisiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Kentucky. In Florida, we were honored by the passage of HB 1361, which codified in state statute the work we began over 20 years ago to help teachers teach and students learn. Please take a look through this report to learn more of what we've been up to this year.



Lastinger Center Reach



State Programs

New Worlds Reading

During the 2023–2024 school year, we served **265,551** students in over **200,000** households statewide. Plus, we’ve shipped over **2.8 million** books and connected with Florida families at **334** community events.



Expanding Partnerships

This year, we established partnerships with **13** community organizations and non-profits to help spread a love of literacy and increase enrollment in New Worlds Reading. Together our Regional Partners hosted or participated in **665** additional community events serving **50,000+** students and family members.

Children’s Home Society of Florida	Panhandle Area Educational Consortium
Children’s Literacy Initiative	Northeast Florida Educational Consortium
Consortium of Florida Education Foundations	Literacy Alliance of Northeast Florida
Florida State Alliance of YMCAs	Principle Life Family Resource Center
Hands Together for Haitians	The Lucy Project
Heartland Educational Consortium	United Way Suncoast
	Uplift Literacy

Furthermore, we partnered up with the **University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences** to create the Books & Cooks program. This program brings families together with cooking demonstrations, nutrition education, children’s books, and related family reading activities.

Florida Tutoring Advantage

In 2024, the Florida Legislature unanimously passed HB 1361 designating the UF Lastinger Center for Learning to establish a tutoring program to support students across the state to improve their literacy and mathematics achievement. The Florida Tutoring Advantage is partnering with districts to pilot program interventions in 2024-25.

					
Share high-impact tutoring guidelines for districts	Consult with school districts on program creation and implementation	Support districts’ in-person tutoring programs	Provide professional learning for administrators and tutors	Provide access to virtual and automated tutoring	AI enhanced tutoring support for districts and students

¹UF Lastinger Center for Learning & New Worlds Reading. (2024). New Worlds Reading Initiative: 2023-2024 Summary.

Professional Learning

Early Learning

More than 41,000 early learning educators have improved their practice with UF Lastinger Center programs since 2015. Through in-person trainings, ongoing communities of practice, and over 1,000 hours of online content in English and Spanish, there’s something to help every early learning educator, coach, or director grow.

Early Literacy Micro-Credentials

The Early Literacy Micro-Credentials are a hybrid model of online modules, instructor-supported online courses and on-the-job practice opportunities. This professional learning program equips birth to twelfth-grade instructional personnel with foundational Science of Reading knowledge and skills to help students learn to read. Eligible participants earn a stipend for mastery of the content.



34K+
enrolled
in Micro-
Credentials

511%
enrollment
increase
from 2022-2023

20K+
achieved
mastery and
earned a stipend

23-24 Micro-Credential Participation by Track

Educators	Enrolled	Completed	Received a stipend
Early Learning	18,827	9,964	10,649
Elementary	11,300	7,511	7,233
Secondary	4,241	2,643	2,303

Professional Learning

Literacy

In addition to the Early Literacy Micro-Credentials, the UF Lastinger Center for Learning continues to support learners with online, on-demand professional learning pathways that lead to earning their Reading Endorsement or the newly-created Literacy Coach Endorsement.

90

Literacy Coaches earned the Florida Literacy Coach Endorsement created for the state by the UF Lastinger Center.

1,498

teachers from across Florida earned Reading Endorsements through the UF Lastinger Center Literacy Matrix.

914

Florida teachers improved their literacy instruction at New Worlds Reading teacher institutes across the state.

Improved Literacy Knowledge

Literacy Matrix participants improved their knowledge on literacy research and strategies

from 54% to 88%²



²Snidarich, S. M., Bratsch-Hines, M., Mowry, E., Taylor Pate, A., Gardner, M., Alfaro, P., & Bunn, J. (2024). Literacy Matrix and Literacy Coach Endorsement Annual Report, 2023-2024. University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning.

Professional Learning

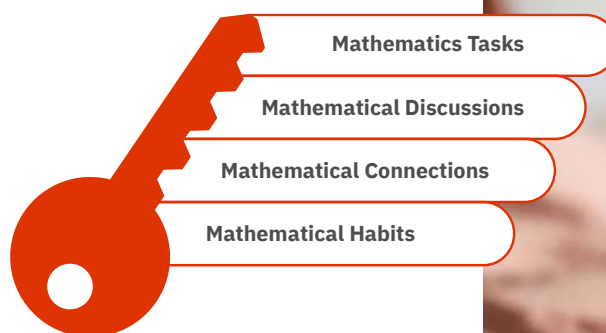
Mathematics

Math Matrix Professional Learning Pilot³

The UF Lastinger Center piloted the new Math Matrix Micro-Credential to improve K-12 mathematics education by building teachers' content and instructional knowledge. Over 170 participants received a \$1,000 stipend and completed 60 hours of professional learning that enhanced their instructional skill mastery.

Instructional Skill Mastery

100% of Math Matrix Micro-Credential completers demonstrated mastery of 4 key components of instruction.



Teacher Learning & Classroom Impact



9 out of 10 participants reported that they:

- + Were satisfied with what they learned
- + Found the content relevant and easy to understand
- + Applied what they learned to their classroom
- + Improved their classroom instruction
- + Were better able to motivate students

Improved Math Knowledge

Math Matrix participants grew their knowledge of math content and instruction

from 68% to 91%



lastinger  listeningtour

We traveled to 30 towns and cities in 10 regions to ask Floridians about the state of math education.



Scan to learn more.

³De Araujo, Z., Engledowl, C. (2024). Math Matrix Micro-Credential Statewide Pilot Final Report July 2024. University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning.

Lastinger Learning Lab

Data & Technology

As education systems continue to implement and expand technology in teaching and learning, large volumes of data are available to inform learning design, enhance learning experiences, and improve learning outcomes. The Lastinger Center's technology infrastructure connects student and educator data to improve education practice.

100K

educator accounts
in our learning
management system

1TB

of data in the Lastinger
Center Data Lagoon

2B

records aggregated in
the Data Lagoon from 8
different sources

Kibeam Wand™ Reading System

The UF Lastinger Center for Learning celebrated a new partnership this year with Kibeam Learning, Inc. Their new invention, the Kibeam Wand™ Reading System offers engaging, kinetic activities based on the stories in paper books, promotes a love of reading for young readers, and opens up new possibilities with data analytics designed to aid parents and educators supporting emerging readers.

Kibeam Wands were sent to 10,000 families enrolled in New Worlds Reading to try out the device for a large-scale research project. The pilot will expand to an additional 49,500 households in 2024-2025.



Artificial Intelligence

With demand for our professional learning programs skyrocketing, the Center has partnered with Terawe to develop an AI model to auto-grade assignments in the Early Literacy Micro-Credentials program. Leveraging this emerging technology will:

1

Yield swift
feedback for
educators

2

Empower the Center
to scale up and serve
more learners

3

Provide
consistent, high-
quality feedback

4

Enable instructors to focus
time on learners who need
the most support

This course has challenged my thinking and pushed me to learn new strategies and skills. The class was really great.

– Early Learning Educator

Every Lastinger training I have participated in exceeds expectations: from hands-on materials to personable trainers, the time spent feels great and well taught – ready to deliver to my team and students.

– Elementary Reading Educator

I know it's important to have student-centered instruction, but this module did a great job in touching on how I can do a better job at it.

– Secondary Math Educator

The University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning improves the quality of teaching, learning, and childcare. We research, develop, and scale educational innovations for adults and children that put all learners on trajectories for lifelong success. Serving more than one million students and 40,000 educators annually, the Lastinger Center has made significant strides for real, scalable solutions in collaboration with educators in Florida, around the nation, and around the world.



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