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*Executive Director*

Helios Education Foundation  
101 E. Kennedy Blvd, Suite 2050  
Tampa, FL 33602

Dear Helios Education Foundation,

It is with great pleasure that the Children's Trust of Alachua County supports the Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign's grant proposal for continuation of their early learning and literacy efforts.

As the local GLR lead agency in Alachua County, our campaign partners have benefitted from the resources, technical assistance, and networking opportunities provided by the Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign (FGLRC). Over 12 community agencies were able to attend the Lectio Institute and coaching sessions offered through FGLRC over the past few years and found this an invaluable learning experience that has guided us to new levels of thinking as we fund and implement local literacy activities and interventions.

FGLRC's ability to convene, connect, and collaborate with local, state, and nationally recognized literacy educators, as well as connect us with new business partners and state level early literacy advocates has provided our local campaign with extensive beneficial resources for our providers and families.

We are proud of our local and state campaign growth and evolution over the past few years, and attribute the guidance provided by FGLRC in helping us make strides in third grade reading proficiency among Florida's students, particularly in communities of need.

This is an unprecedented time of student and community need and we are confident that the continuation of supports provided by FGLRC through Helios Education Foundation funding, will allow us to continue addressing achievement gaps, advocate effectively, and inspire students to become lifelong readers and learners.

It is our hope at Children's Trust of Alachua County that the Helios Education Foundation will continue to support the Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign in their efforts to provide quality instruction, statewide alignment, and systems supports, and expand public policy ensuring all Florida students have the opportunity to become reading proficient by third grade.

Sincerely,



Colin G. Murphy  
*Executive Director*