

**Alachua County Reads
Community Literacy Collaborative
Implementation Report Update**

Executive Summary

This report provides a strategic overview of the Alachua County Reads Community Literacy Collaborative, including implementation phases, potential partner roles, and capacity-building activities designed to improve literacy outcomes across community-based organizations. The collaborative leverages university expertise, community partners, and coordinated training to build sustainable literacy infrastructure across Alachua County.

Strategic Implementation Timeline

| Implementation Phase | Key Activities and Outcomes |
|--|---|
| Phase 1: Framework Development (Summer 2025) | Framework created, revised, and adopted. University and evaluation partners identified. |
| Phase 2: Community Engagement (Fall 2025) | Town halls conducted. Contracts signed. Initial partners recruited. Marketing planning initiated. |
| Phase 3: Infrastructure Development (Winter 2025–2026) | Consultants engaged. Partner outreach expanded. Curriculum and training preparation initiated. |
| Phase 4: Capacity Building (Spring 2026) | Training programs launched. Literacy hubs developed. Partner readiness assessments conducted. |
| Phase 5: Implementation Launch (Summer–Fall 2026) | Full implementation with 17 partners. Capacity funding provided. Reporting and evaluation begin. |

Collaborative Team Structure

Team One: Curriculum and Evaluation Experts

University of Florida Literacy Institute, Family Youth and Community Sciences, and evaluation specialists providing curriculum guidance, training, and evaluation.

UFLI Program: Dr. Holly Lane, Jennifer Reeves, M.Ed., America Reads Student mentors

FYCS: Dr. David Diehl, Evaluator

Team Two: Implementation and Capacity Building

Literacy Coordinator, consultants, and community partners responsible for delivering literacy services and implementing collaborative programs.

Literacy Coordinator: Heidi Keegan

Literacy Consultants: Amber Hatch, Savannah Butler

Implementer Lead Agency: Leah Galione, ED, and Leila Powell, Literacy Specialist PEAK Literacy

Implementor Support: Dr. Walter Balsler, COE Educational Leadership Entrepreneur Program plus 3-5 students

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Team Three: Community Advisory Leadership

Community leaders, educators, and stakeholders providing strategic guidance, alignment, and community voice. Team Three will be recruited and built over the summer and meeting structures and engagement will be developed.

Potential Members as suggested by Alachua County Grade Level Reading will be reviewed by the CTAC and County Lead Advisory Team.

Team Four: Hubs, Marketing, and Communications

Communications specialists responsible for messaging, digital hub development, and public awareness. Team Four hubs will be launched, and marketing and messaging strategy for the full launch in the fall will be built and budget derived. Protocols will be developed to bring in new programs in the fall outside the initial programs using PEAK programming and with CNE support for the training and capacity building.

Potential Partners: David Torees Media, Amber Hatch Busch, Savannah Butler, Cornelius Dunmore, Resource Centers with Partnership For Strong Families, and Alachua County Library District

Community Partner Network

The collaborative may include 17 initial implementation partners across education, youth development, and community-based organizations. These partners serve as literacy hubs and program delivery sites.

Potential Community Based Programs:

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| AMI Kids Gainesville, Inc. | Development, Inc | Inc. |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters Of Tampa Bay, Inc. | Cultural Arts Coalition, Inc. | Lee's Preschool Center Inc. |
| Boys' And Girls' Clubs Of Northeast Florida, Inc. | Gainesville For All, Inc. | Made For More Foundation Inc |
| Community Impact Corporation, Inc. | Gainesville Thrives, Inc. | Motiv8u Of North Central Florida, Inc. |
| Crafty Gemini Youth | Girls Place, Inc. | Pace Center For Girls, Inc. |
| | IGB Education Corp | Willie Mae Stokes Community Center |
| | Infinite Dream Builders Corp. | |
| | Kids Count In Alachua County, | |

Strategic Priorities and Next Steps

- Expand literacy hub infrastructure
- Provide ongoing partner training and support
- Strengthen evaluation and outcome tracking
- Increase community awareness and engagement
- Scale implementation to additional partner organizations