CHILDREN'S TRUST
OF ALACHUA COUNTY

Alliance for Scholars
Impact and Insights– Year 5

November 9, 2026

ALLIANCE FOR SCHOLARS

Alliance for Scholars program uses a research-based summer literacy and enrichment initiative designed to help K–12 scholars strengthen reading skills, build confidence, and engage in social action through five essential components:

- Integrated Reading Curriculum
- Servant Leadership Development
- Family & Community Engagement
- Civic Engagement & Social Action
- Nutrition, Health & Wellness







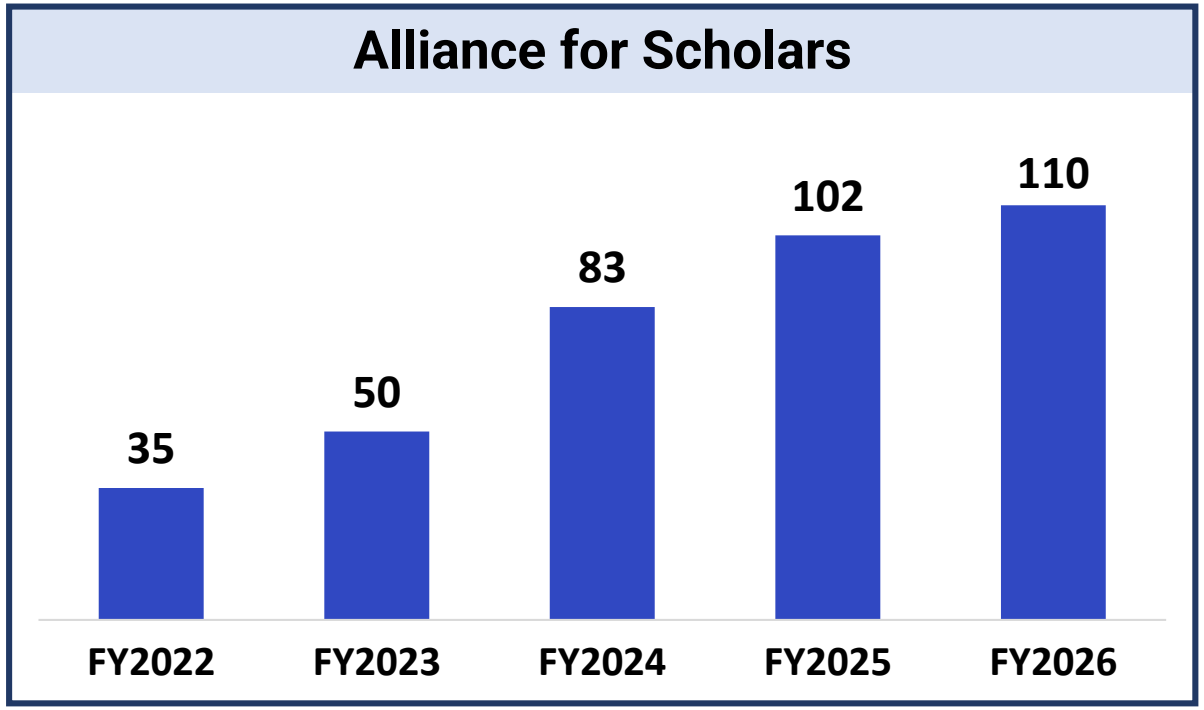


Youth Served



110 youth were served with funding from Children's Trust in summer 2026.

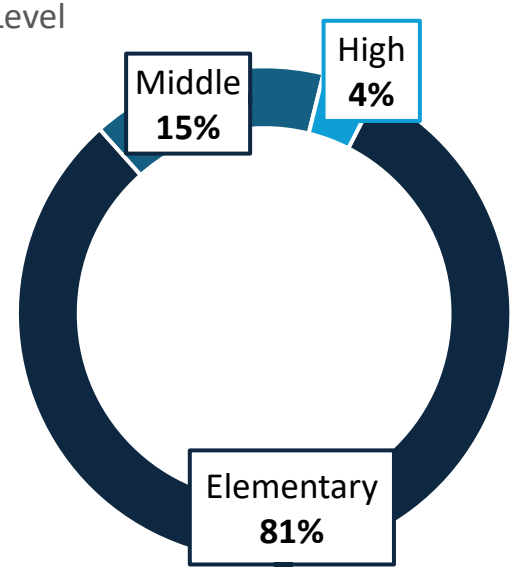
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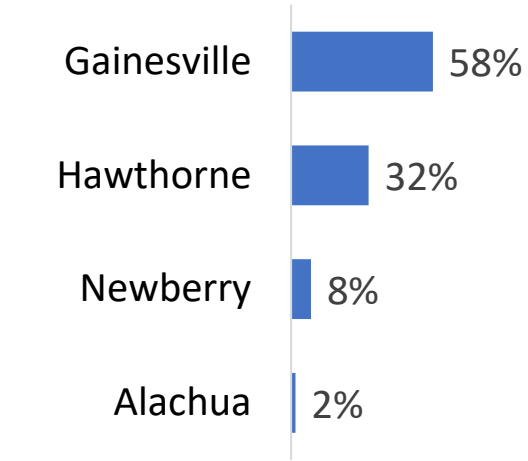
- Youth served has grown every year since 2022.
- Started in Gainesville; an additional site was added in Hawthorne in 2025.

Demographics of Youth Served

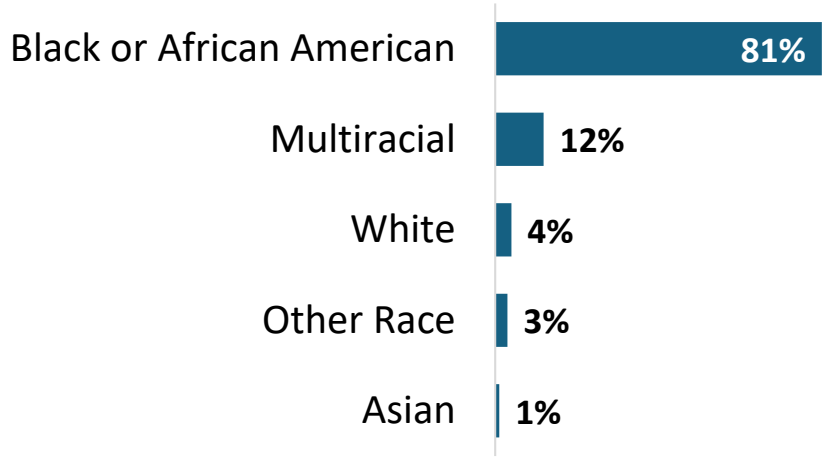
Grade Level



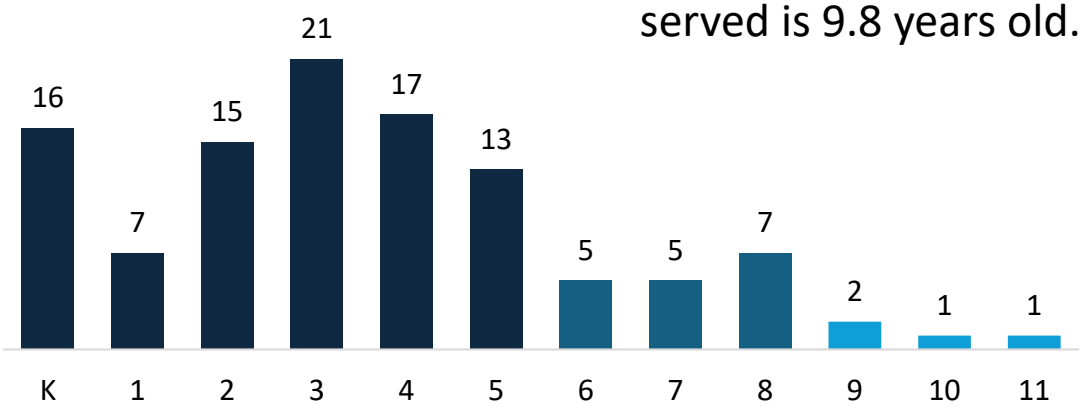
City of Residence



Race

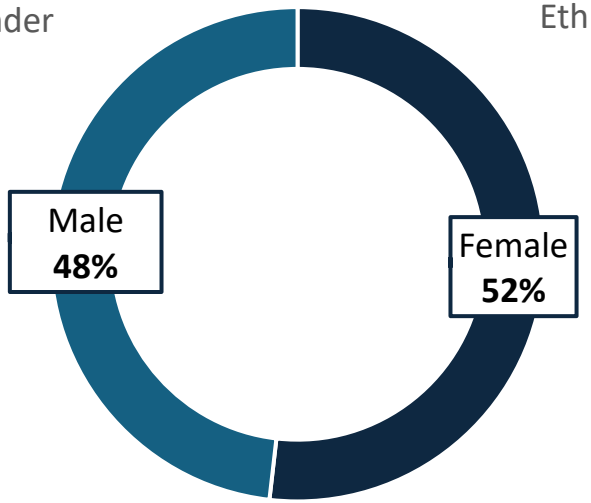


Grade in 2025-2026

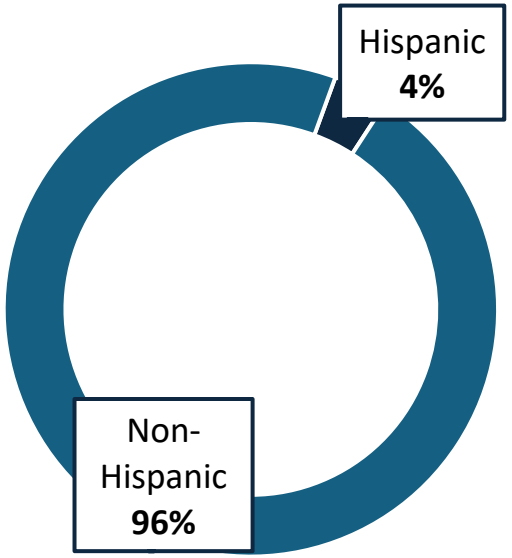


The average age of youth served is 9.8 years old.

Gender

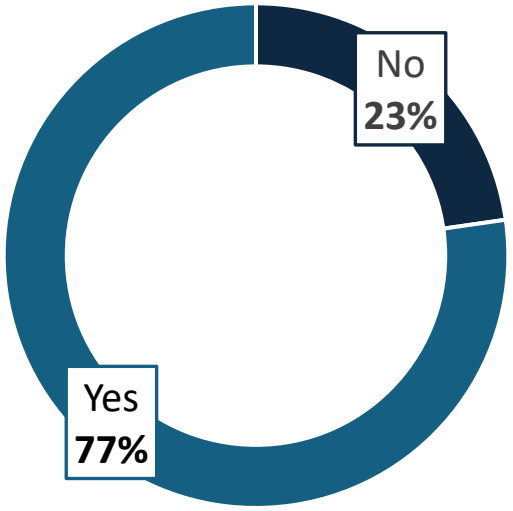


Ethnicity



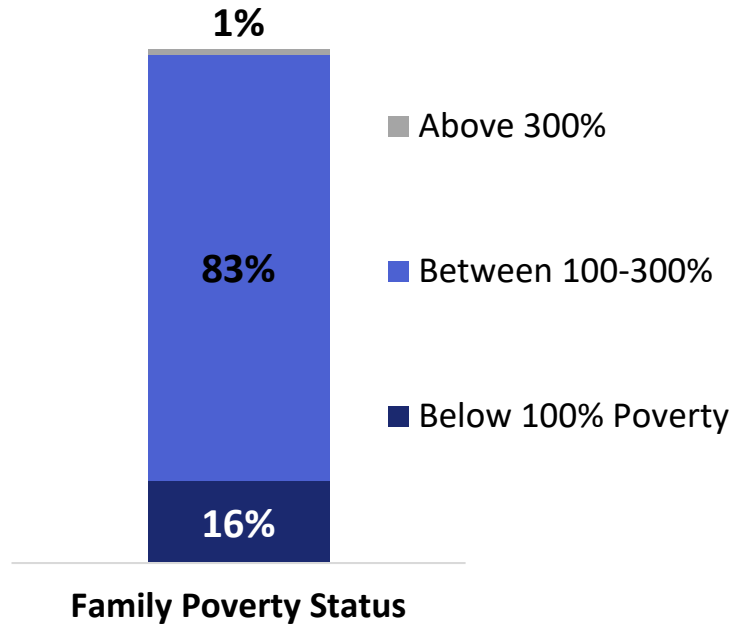
Programming is reaching children who face economic barriers to summer learning.

Children Receiving Free or Reduced School Lunch



77% of children receive the free and reduced cost school lunch program.

Average Household Size: **4.4**



99% of children were from families with incomes *less than* 300% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Average Annual Household Income: **$51,622**

2026 Federal Poverty Guidelines

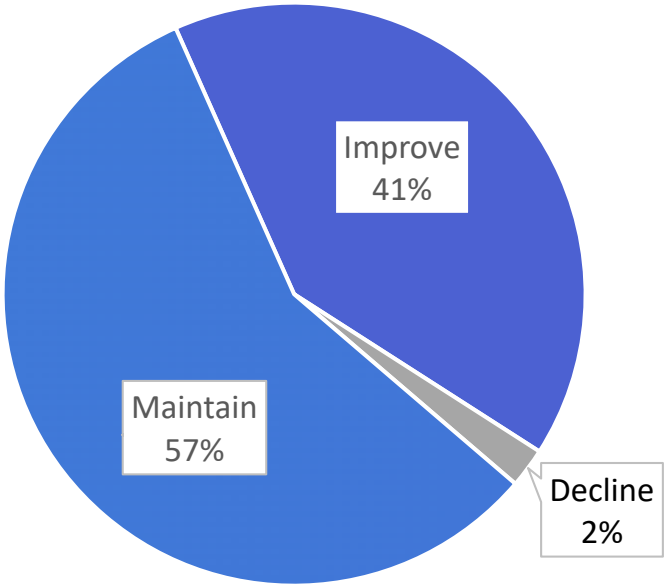
Household/ Family Size	100%	300%
2	$21,640	$64,920
3	$27,320	$81,960
4	$33,000	$99,000
5	$38,680	$116,040
6	$44,360	$133,080
7	$50,040	$150,120
8	$55,720	$167,160

HHS Poverty Guidelines for 2026

Assessments show children gain literacy skills and avoid summer slide.

98% of youth gained or maintained their literacy skills.

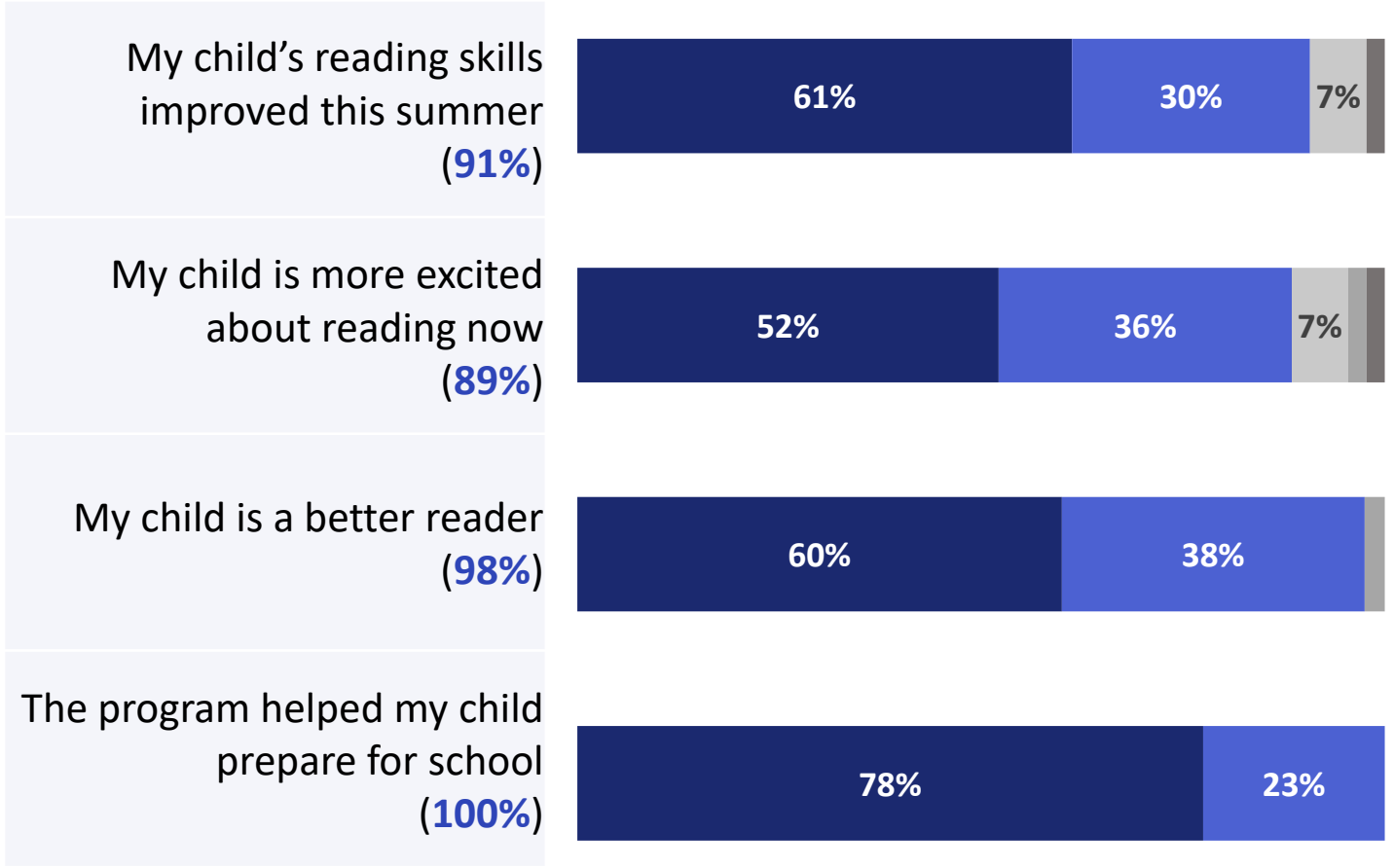
As demonstrated through pre-post assessment



Assessment Tool: Qualitative Reading Inventory

N = 91

Parent survey results reinforce this finding, indicating improvement in reading skills, enthusiasm, and preparation for school.



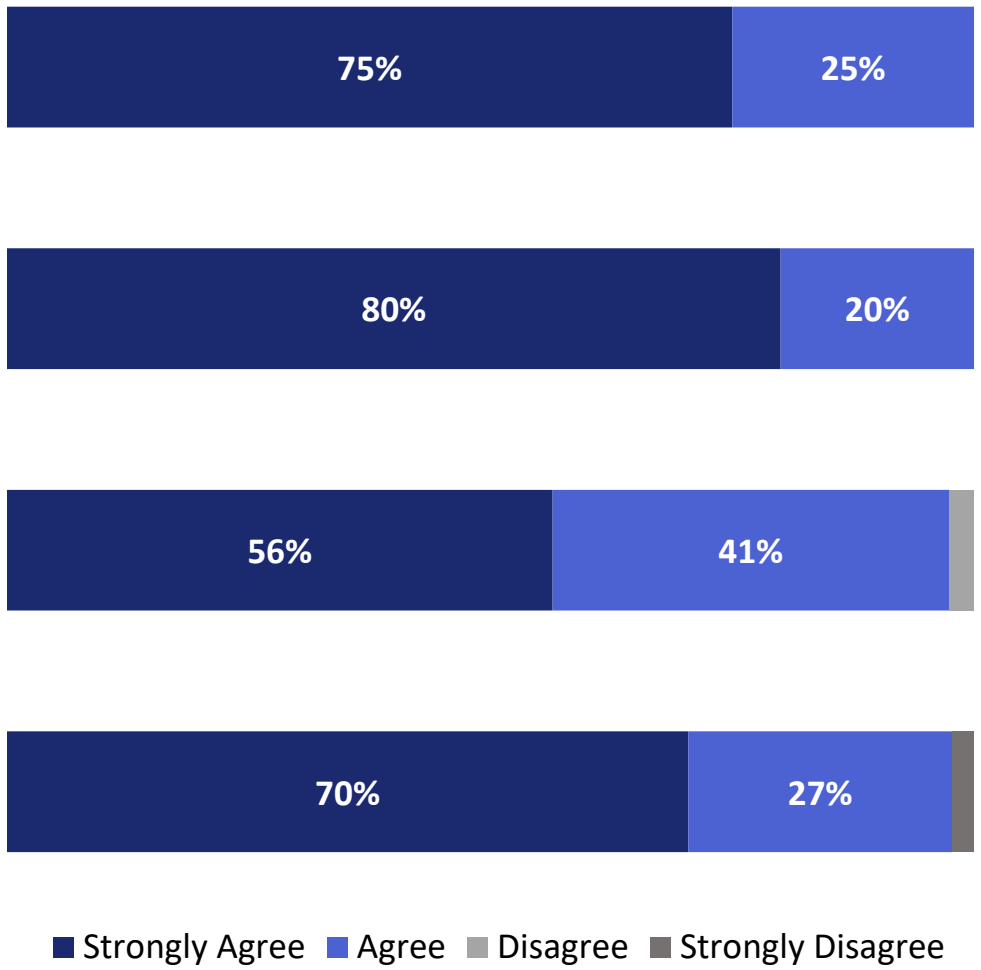
Children demonstrated growth in their personal and social emotional skills.

My child has more confidence (**100%**)

My child feels more able to make a difference (**100%**)

My child learned ways to resolve conflicts (**97%**)

My child gained social skills such as communicating and cooperating with others (**98%**)



Parents said:

"Besides helping with reading and academics, the program has helped the children develop confidence [and] become comfortable with who they are."

"[My child gained] confidence, improved reading and communication skills, learned teamwork."

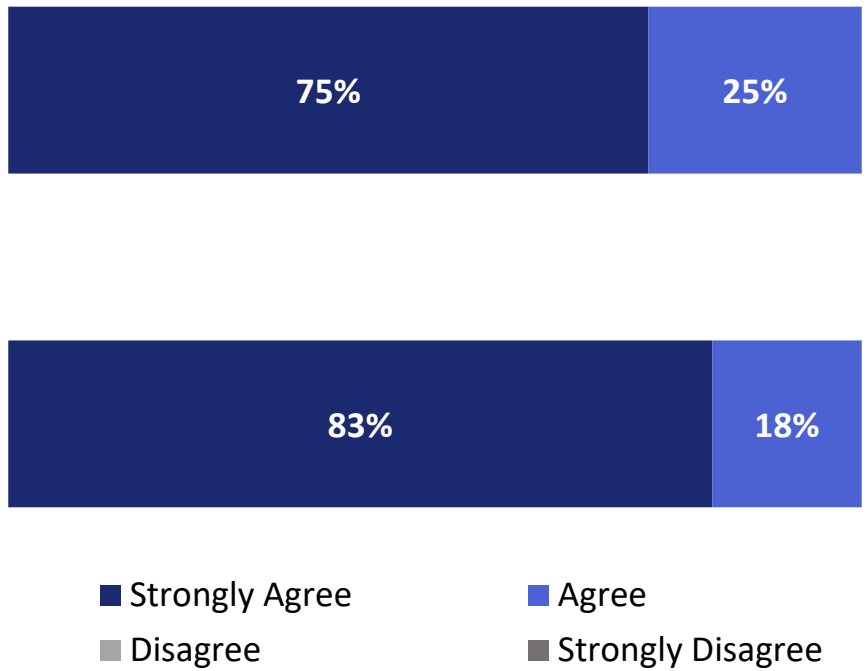


Parents are involved and better prepared to help their child succeed.

Each site offered five parent workshops

I have a better understanding of how to help my child be successful (**100%**)

I plan to be more engaged in my child's schoolwork next year (**100%**)



Parents said:

"The parent meetings are especially valuable because they help us understand their journey and what it takes to get there. It also keeps us informed about what the children are achieving, doing, and experiencing."

"I love that the program encourages parents' participation and involves us."



Performance Measures



CHILDREN'S TRUST OF ALACHUA COUNTY

How Much?

Measure	Target	Actual
Children Served	99	110
Program Days	58	58
Parents Engaged	88	100
Volunteers	28	74

How Well?

Measure	Target	Actual
Scholar Attendance	85%	85%
Parent Involvement	80%	91%
Camp Communication	85%	89%
Overall Experience	90%	100%

Better Off?

Measure	Target	Actual
Scholars Improve or Maintain Reading Skills	80%	98%
Scholars Gain Confidence	90%	100%
Program Safety	90%	95%
Learning Activities	90%	91%

Program delivered at a competitive cost with near full fund utilization.

FY2026 – Fiscal Allocation, Expenditures, and Fund Utilization

Site Location	Children Served	Contract Allocation	Actual Expenditures	Utilization
Alliance for Scholars - Gainesville	71	$150,568	$149,115	99.0%
Alliance for Scholars - Hawthorne	39	$84,000	$82,693	98.4%
Overall Program	**110**	**$234,568**	**$231,808**	**98.8%**

Investment per Child = $2,107

In Florida, the average cost of a six-week standard day camp ranges from $1,500 to $3,000.

FY26: Goal 2: Children Learn What They Need to be Successful

FY27: Goal 2: Children Learn What They Need to be Successful
Focus Area 2: Literacy and Academic Success

Objective
Children meet or exceed academic standards.

Strategies - What works?

- Support programs with an evidence-based literacy component
- Facilitate access to impactful academic reinforcements

CTAC Implementation Plan

Specific Tasks

- Provide leadership and funding for the county-wide Literacy Collaborative.
- Cultivate and strengthen literacy and math offerings in out-of-school time programs.
- Create a formal process for communication and coordination with the School Board and the Superintendent of Alachua County Public Schools.
- Explore strategies to improve school attendance.

How will we know we're making an impact?
Measuring Strategic Results

Strategy	Measures	Targets
Support programs with an evidence-based literacy component	Children participating in programs with an evidence-based literacy component	**200**
	Children improve literacy and math skills	**80%**
	Children reach grade level proficiency	**80%**

Strategy	Measures	Targets
Facilitate access to impactful academic reinforcements	Facilitate Alachua County Literacy Collaborative	**In progress**
	Host convenings for funded providers focused on impactful implementation of academic programming	

Insights from FY26

- Record Participation: Served 110 scholars, the highest to date.
- Consistent Program Growth: Consistent increase of children served each year and reach of programming.
- Serving High Need Children: Nearly all children fall below 300% poverty threshold with 77% receiving free or reduced lunch.
- Exceptional Literacy Outcomes: 98% of scholars improved or maintained their literacy skills; triangulated by parent perception.
- Growth in Social-Emotional Competence: Parents report children increased confidence and self-efficacy (100%), gained social (98%) and conflict resolution skills (97%).
- Families are Empowered: 100% feel better prepared to help their child succeed and plan to be more involved in their schooling.
- Excelled in Program Performance: Met or exceeded targets for all performance measures. Families report high satisfaction.

Moving into FY27 (and beyond!)

- Consider expansion to the western side of the county.
- Partner more closely with the school district to:
  1) evaluate impact utilizing district data
  2) strategically offer to youth needing summer learning
- Explore engaging, effective strategies to build youths' math skills.

FY26 Alliance for Scholar - Data Alignment

- Children participating in programs with an evidenced based literacy component (n=110).
- Children improve literacy (41%) and math skills (n/a).
- Children reach grade level proficiency (70%).

Additional Information

ALLIANCE FOR SCHOLARS

DAILY SCHEDULE

Program Days:

June 15th – July 24th

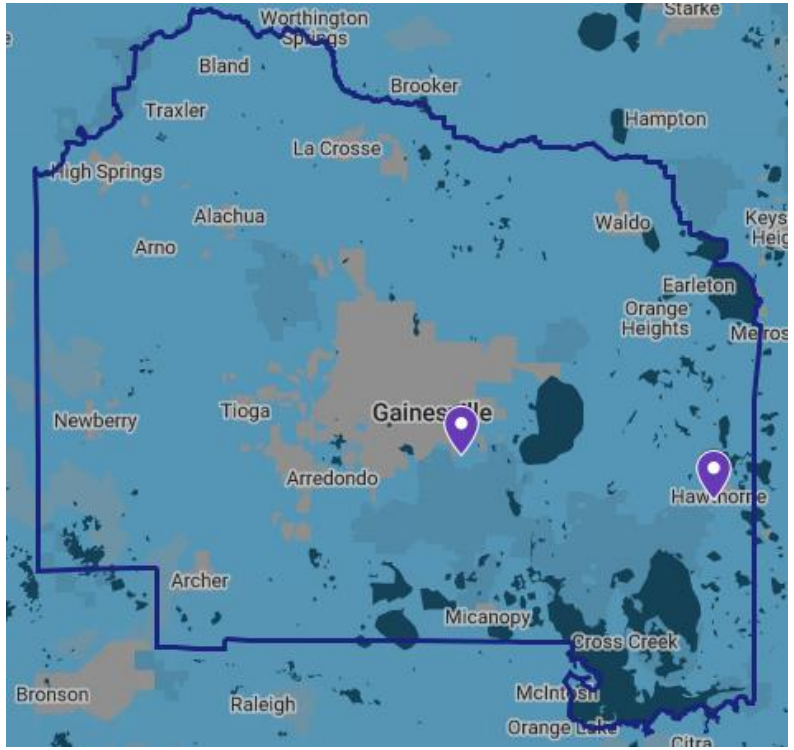
7:45am – 3pm

8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:30 AM	Harambee
9:00 AM	Integrated Reading Curriculum
10:30 AM	Snack
10:45 AM	Integrated Reading Curriculum
11:45 AM	D.E.A.R. time
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Enrichment Activities
3:00 PM	Dismissal

CHILDREN'S TRUST
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Children Served by Site Location

Alliance for Scholars
Program Site Locations
Summer 2026



Children Served by Site Location

Site Location	Count (%)
Prairie View Elementary School (Gainesville)	**71 children** (65%)
Hawthorne Middle High School (Hawthorne)	**39 children** (35%)
Total	**110**

Parent reflections on improvement in reading skills and ability access to books.

Parents report the following skills and knowledge gains:

- "She is now more confident and is spelling better."
- "Better reading…teamwork and collaboration…fun recipes"
- "Sounding out words"





"My child got better at reading and learned new words."

Alliance for Scholars - Summer 2026













