

FLINT & GENESEE

Literacy Network

ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2022-JUNE 2023



PARTNERSHIPS

CONVENE, ALIGN, & COLLABORATE

144 PARTNERS



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

4077 HOURS

PROVIDED VIA COLLECTIVE IMPACT
CAPACITY-BUILDING SUPPORTS



FGLN & CONSULTANTS

762 DATA HOURS

INVESTED IN THE STRATEGIC IMPACT
& EVALUATION FRAMEWORK



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

50 REFERRALS

PEOPLE CONNECTED TO COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS & RESOURCES



ADULT LEARNERS

137 STUDENTS

2540 HOURS TIME-ON-TASK
9 ADULT LEARNING CENTERS



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

599 HOURS

IN TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPAND
BACKBONE CAPACITY



FAMILY-CENTERED COACHING

12 PARTNERS | **36** PARTICIPANTS

FCC IS A COACHING APPROACH TRAINING ORGANIZATIONS
CENTERING FAMILIES EXPERIENCING POVERTY.



SUMMER LEARNING DAYS (2022)

162 PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

10 "POP-UPS" IN COMMUNITY

634 BOOKS & RESOURCES



FLINT COMMUNITY READ

167 PARTICIPANTS

I.G.N.I.T.E COMMUNITY READ

6 PARTICIPANTS

YOUTH COMMUNITY READ (SBEV)

22 PARTICIPANTS



SOCIAL MEDIA

ADVOCACY & CAMPAIGNS

1,470 FOLLOWERS | **1,259** VISITS

6 CAMPAIGNS

11,616 REACH



WHO'S WORKING WITH US?



144
PARTNERS

- A.G. Bishop Charitable Trust
- ABC12 NEWS Local
- Academy West - Alternative Education & Adult Education Program
- Active Boys in Christ (ABC)
- America Walks
- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)
- American Council on Education (MI-ACE)
- AmeriCorps - Flint Urban Safety & Health Corps (FUSHC), RSVP, & VISTA
- Applewood
- Ascend at the Aspen Institute
- Beauty for Ashes Empowerment Center
- Boaz Urban Community Center
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Flint
- Bridging Gaps
- C.O.F.Y. New Beginnings Literacy Program
- C.S. Mott Foundation
- Carriage Town Ministries
- Catholic Charities - Center for Hope
- Center for Higher Education Achievement (CHEA)
- Child Care Network (CCN)
- City of Flint - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Co.act Detroit
- Comma Bookstore & Social Hub
- Communities First Inc.
- Community Enrichment Center
- Community Foundation of Greater Flint
- Congressman Dan Kildee
- Crim Fitness Foundation - Community Education Initiative
- Crossover Outreach
- Eagle's Nest Academy
- Edible Flint
- Education Foundation for the Flint Community Schools
- Enterprising Ventures of Color (EVC)
- Family Promise of Genesee County
- Flex High School
- Flint & Genesee Group - Flint & Genesee Education & Talent, YouthQuest, TeenQuest, Summer Youth Initiative (SYI)
- Flint Center for Educational Excellence
- Flint Children's Museum
- Flint Community Read
- Flint Community Schools (FCS) - Durant-Tuuri-Mott, Freeman, Potter, and Doyle-Ryder Elementary
- Flint Development Center (FDC)
- Flint Early Childhood Collaborative (FECC) - Flint Educare
- Flint Firebirds
- Flint Freedom Schools Collaborative
- Flint Genesee Job Corps
- Flint Housing Commission (FHC)
- Flint Institute of Arts (FIA)
- Flint Local Authors' Initiative (FLAI)
- Flint Neighborhood Improvement and Preservation Project (Flint Nipp) Inc.
- Flint Odyssey House
- Flint Public Library (FPL)
- Flint Registry - Flint Lead-Free / Healthy Homes
- Flint Repertory Theatre
- Foundation for Mott Community College
- Genesee Commonwealth
- Genesee Community Health Center (GCHC)
- Genesee County Community Action Resource Development (GCCARD)
- Genesee County Literacy Coalition (GCLC)
- Genesee County Parks
- Genesee County Youth Corporation (GCRYC)
- Genesee District Libraries (GDL)
- Genesee Health Plan (GHP)
- Genesee Health Systems (GHS)
- Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) - Great Start Readiness Program, Great Start Collaborative, Great Start Parent Coalition, Birth-to-Third Grade Committee, Adult ESL Program
- Gottagetit
- Grand Blanc Community Schools - Indian Hill Elementary
- Great Start Tuscola
- Greater Flint Health Coalition (GFHC)
- Greater Heights Academy
- GST Michigan Works! - Talent & Development Center (TDC)
- Harambee Wellness
- Hasselbring Senior Center
- Hurley Medical Center - Advisory Committee
- Huron Intermediate School District (HISD)
- I.G.N.I.T.E | Office of Sheriff - Genesee County Sheriff
- JEWELLS Finance & Resource Hub
- Kalamazoo Public Library - ONEplace
- Kearsley Community Schools
- Kelsey Ronan, Author
- Laird Technologies
- Lapeer County Intermediate School District (LISD)
- Latinx Technology & Community Center
- Legal Services of Eastern Michigan (LSEM)
- Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA)
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Flint
- Making Changes Enterprise
- Math4Flint
- Metro Community Development, (MCD)
- Michigan Civil Service Commission (MCSC)
- Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC)
- Michigan State University (MSU) - Higher Adult and Lifelong Education Program (HALE), Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Mothers' Advocates In the Community (MOSAIC) Study
- Michigan-Made Intermediate School Districts (MAISA)
- MLive
- Mothers of Joy University
- Mott Community College (MCC) - Workforce & Economic Development (WED), Lenore Croudy Family Life Center LCFLC, Financial Opportunity Center (FOC), American Association for Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC), Women in Education (WIE), National Apprenticeship Week
- Mt. Morris Center for Adult Education
- My Brothers Keeper of Genesee County (MBK)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- New Paths, Inc.
- Nonprofit Network
- North Flint Neighborhood Action Council (NAC)
- Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency Community Action Agency (OLHSA)
- Omar Center
- Order of the Eastern Star of Michigan
- Points of Light
- Priceless Dreams
- ProLiteracy
- River Park Apartments
- Rotary Club of Flint
- Ruth Mott Foundation
- Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority (SCCMHA)
- Saginaw Intermediate School District
- Sanilac Intermediate School District
- Save-a-Soul Ministries
- Self Love Beauty
- Shelter of Flint
- Shiawassee County Health Department (SCHD)
- Sloan*Longway
- South Flint Community Plan - Choice Neighborhoods Initiative
- St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA)
- St. Luke's N.E.W. Life Center
- State of Michigan - Child Lead Exposure Elimination Commission (CLEEC), Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH), CoC Equitable Results Teams (CERTs), Michigan's Campaign to End Homelessness (MCTEH), Department of Education (MDE), Birth to Five Literacy Support Hub Region 6
- Sunridge Apartments
- Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village (SBEV)
- The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
- The Davison Index
- The Dollywood Foundation - Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
- The Engagement Center
- The Flint Courier News
- The Leadership Group
- The Oatmeal Club
- The Power Initiative
- Training & Treatment Innovations, Inc. (TTI)
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-Continuum of Care (CoC), Choice Neighborhoods Initiatives (CNI)
- Uma Strong Marshall Outreach
- Umbrellax Behavioral Health Services, LLC
- United Way of Genesee County
- University of Michigan-Flint - Office of Economic Development
- Urban Renaissance Center (URC)
- Valley Area Agency on Aging (VAAA)
- Vincent Slocum
- Voices for Children - Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- YWCA of Greater Flint
- Zonta Club Flint

Literacy for Life.



Flint & Genesee Literacy Network

Mid-Year Report | July -December 2022 Highlights

JULY - SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1

JULY

- FGLN launched a social media campaign to promote **Summer Learning Days** throughout Genesee County, sharing **162 resources** in a "Summer Learning" guide and highlighting **76 Partners**.
- FGLN launched Summer Learning Days **Popsicles & Pop-Ups**, distributing **93 books** to children at 3 sites - Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village, Sloan Museum, and Riverpark Apartments.
- FGLN led a **5-week series** of Life Skills training classes with **5 participants** at Carriage Town Ministries teaching Mindfulness.
- FGLN provided a class for **19 women** at Beauty for Ashes Empowerment Center (BAEC), focusing on self-care, beauty, health, and wellness.
- FGLN facilitated the donation of **\$9,000 in-kind donations** to the Crim Fitness Foundation Community Education Initiative.
- FGLN provided assistance with ESL classes for Genesee County Literacy Coalition (GCLC)/Omar Centers.
- FGLN AmeriCorps Member, **Brenniss Carnes-Ferguson**, received a scholarship and attended the Points of Light Conference in Orlando, Florida.
- FGLN piloted Community Read Youth to **22 students** (4th-7th grade) at Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village.
- FGLN led sessions of Community Read I.G.N.I.T.E. in the Genesee County Jail.

AUGUST

- FGLN coordinated the donation of **20 children's books** to the Mothers of Joy Institute.
- FGLN facilitated Family-Centered Coaching (FCC) Coaches' Session with Mothers of Joy University, teaching about trauma-informed approaches.
- FGLN hosted a final celebration for **6 participants** of Community Read I.G.N.I.T.E.
- FGLN hosted a Community Read Youth Pop-up and Popsicles final celebration for **12 students** and their families at Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village.
- FGLN hosted a Pop-Up at the Back-to-School Family Funday Picnic at Sunridge Apartments and distributed **32 books** with literacy pamphlets.
- FGLN supported BAEC, an organization serving victims of human trafficking, serving **36 women**.
- FGLN began compiling the **"2022 Back-to-School" guide**.

SEPTEMBER

- FGLN supported FGLN's **Ella Gill** as Volunteer of the Year. She was honored by Valley Area Agency on Aging at the AmeriCorps RSVP Seniors Celebration.
- FGLN coordinated with the Genesee Intermediate School District and the Birth to Five Literacy Support Hub (Region 6) for the regional distribution and data collection of **9,470 books** on kindergarten readiness, emotional well-being, and cultural competency, **4,720** of these books were distributed in Genesee County.
- FGLN issued the FCC 7th edition of its newsletter, which focused on trauma-informed self-care.
- FGLN supported the Flint Public Library (FPL) "Lunch and Learn Series" with Flint Community Read author Kelsey Ronan.
- FGLN attended the storytelling session at Clark Commons for CNI families.
- FGLN partnered with Uma Strong Marshall Outreach, EJ's Garden, Edible Flint, and Genesee County Park's Human Libraries to extend Summer Learning Days Pop-Ups in communities and events with low access to literature. FGLN distributed **247 books and resources**.
- FGLN served **10 women** at BAEC and connected them with local housing resources.
- FGLN presented to the Flint Rotary Club.
- ABC12 interviewed FGLN's Executive Director regarding the third-grade reading outcomes.
- FGLN attended the Volunteer Fair at Mott Community College, connecting interested volunteers to Adult Learning Center partners.
- FGLN's Executive Director was recognized with the **2022 MCC President's Excellence Award**.

OCTOBER

- FGLN attended the **ProLiteracy Conference on Adult Education** in San Antonio, TX, and the **Education Policy and Advocacy Session** in Washington D.C.
- FGLN welcomed new AmeriCorps VISTA, Katherine Landon, to the team in partnership with the Michigan Civil Service Commission Youth Resource VISTA Program.
- FGLN AmeriCorps members engaged in professional development on leadership and conflict resolution provided by the United Way of Genesee County's AmeriCorps Accelerator program.
- FGLN supported the Genesee County Literacy Coalition's annual fundraiser at Luigi's Restaurant to raise funds for Adult Learning Centers.
- FGLN provided a **2-day Mental Health & Wellness workshop** at the Omar Center, serving **16 women** and providing resource guides in English and Arabic.
- FGLN kicked off **Year 7 of Flint Community Read** at the Farmer's Market with local author Kelsey Ronan. The Community Foundation of Greater Flint generously provided **"Chevy in the Hole"** books, and Comma Bookstore & Social Hub facilitated the community pick-up. Initially, **168 people registered** for the 2022-2023.
- FGLN partnered with the University of Michigan-Flint's Office of Economic Development to update and enhance the Literacy GIS mapping project.
- FGLN welcomed **Enterprising Ventures of Color** for a site visit.
- FGLN partnered with **Math4Flint** to provide free math and numeracy support to the community.
- FGLN and the Flint Local Authors Initiative convened to discuss ways to lift the voices of local authors in Flint.
- FGLN partnered with Flint Community Schools for Freeman Elementary's spooky book giveaway, providing free books and resources to families.
- FGLN partnered with Edible Flint in supporting their Fall Harvest Event at The MSU-Extensions teaching garden, providing free books and resources to families.

NOVEMBER

- FGLN attended the **National Women in Trades** breakfast to celebrate National Apprenticeship Week. Our Executive Director **Angela Hood** delivered the keynote on the importance of women in the workforce.
- FGLN hosted the annual **American Association for Women in Community College Scholarship & Award Luncheon** at Mott Community College.
- FGLN's Operation Manager **Jessica Kitchner** earned an honorable mention as the 2022 AAACC's Most Influential Woman of the Year.
- FGLN facilitated the **MI-ACE Women of Color Collaborative Virtual Lunch and Learn**.
- FGLN helped facilitate a Thanksgiving luncheon at the BAEC.
- FGLN issued the FCC 8th edition of its newsletter, which focused on self-care and self-love.
- FGLN launched the **22-23 Flint Community Read**. The guest speaker was the CR selection's author, Kelsey Ronan.
- FGLN published an updated Adult Learning Center Resource Guide.
- FGLN provided ALC Site Coordinator Training Binders for the Genesee County Literacy Coalition.

DECEMBER

- The Michigan Civil Service Commission (MCSC) awarded FGLN small-grant funding to support **3 service projects** to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- FGLN facilitated the connection of Genesee County Literacy Coalition to a potential new Adult Learning Center, JEWELLS Finance & Resource Hub.
- The Genesee County Literacy Coalition recognized FGLN AmeriCorps member **Mervat Essak** for her support of ESL participants.
- FGLN implemented the development of an **upcoming Equity & Education training** in partnership with the Genesee Intermediate School District and the Region 6 Literacy Support Hub.
- FGLN hosted an FCC Coaches' Session with guest speaker Lisa Thompson from Self Love Beauty.
- FGLN supported the Flint Community Schools' district-wide launch of their new Literacy Initiative and the 2022 "Family Literacy Night" at the Flint Farmer's Market.
- FGLN Executive Director read "Gratitude is My Superpower" to 2nd-grade students at Potter's Elementary.
- FGLN partnered with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in the acquisition and distribution of **250 books** and **five weekly read-alouds** at Potter Elementary School.
- FGLN led a clean-up of the Kearsley Middle School and Durant-Tuuri Mott school clothing closets.
- FGLN helped facilitate a holiday celebration at the BAEC.
- FGLN attended the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative Christmas Event.

OCTOBER - DECEMBER

QUARTER 2

Flint & Genesee Literacy Network

Mid-Year Report | January -July 2023 Highlights



JANUARY - MARCH QUARTER 3

JANUARY

- FGLN created a comprehensive Community Resource Guide.
- FGLN hosted a book drive in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, which generated **391 books** to be distributed to various shelters throughout Flint.
- FGLN collaborated with the University of Michigan-Flint Office of Economic Development to develop a **GIS Literacy Resource map**.
- FGLN was selected as one of eight local organizations to join **Enterprising Ventures of Color (EVC)**, an 18-month fellowship cohort designed to strengthen individual, organizational, and collective resiliency.
- FGLN issued the 9th edition of the Family-Centered Coaching (FCC) Newsletter.
- FGLN participated in the Flint Firebirds STEAM Day and distributed **60 books**.

February

- FGLN launched a social media campaign to celebrate Black History Month.
- FGLN promoted the MCSC-funded grant project: Community Storytelling Sessions.
- FGLN donated **100 books** to the Shelter of Flint as part of the MLK book drive.
- FGLN hosted the first **Equity & Literacy training** with Dr. Patricia Edwards. This training was offered statewide through the MI Region 6 Great Start Collaborative Literacy Hub, a **7-county cohort** focused on equity, sustainability, and high-quality early education programming. Over **236 people registered for the 4-part training**, which focused on equity, literacy, and the importance of family and parent engagement.
- FGLN facilitated an FCC Coaches Session to provide training on the FCC Toolkit to **15 local human-service providers**.
- FGLN provided self-care professional development training to the MCC chapter of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC).
- FGLN funded the renewal of Aztec Learning Software, providing **9 local Adult Learning Centers** with access to the comprehensive computer-based continuum of learning software and diagnostic tools.
- The FGLN Executive Director and Operation Manager participated in the Enterprising Ventures of Color Fellowship Kick-Off. EVC focuses on strengthening the long-term capacity and infrastructure of nonprofit organizations.
- The FGLN Executive Director was featured in the **Language Arts Journal of Michigan (LAJM) Community Spotlight** for the Fall/Winter 2023 issue.

MARCH

- FGLN attended a press conference with **Congressman Kildee** to announce historic funding allocated for the expansion of literacy efforts in Flint and Genesee County. This funding will enable the expansion of **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** to include all children in Genesee County.
- FGLN was nominated for the **2023 Voices for Children Children's Champion Awards in the Exceptional Business category**.
- FGLN convened the first in-person Community Connection Session post-COVID to release the **2023 State of Literacy Report**. The report provides an analysis of countywide trends and baseline knowledge from early childhood through adulthood, aiming to inform future investments and strategies.
- FGLN participated in the VAAA Annual Volunteer Recognition event to honor senior volunteers serving in Flint and Genesee County.
- FGLN hosted and facilitated the second session of the MI Region 6 Great Start Collaborative Literacy Hub's **Equity & Literacy training** series.
- FGLN Leadership participated in a week-long training for the **Enterprising Ventures of Color Fellowship** in Detroit Michigan. The training was an intense focus on enterprise capital, capacity building, and network access— driven by collaboration and community.
- FGLN was featured in **ABC12 NEWS** articles and interviews regarding the repeal of Michigan's third-grade reading law and FGLN's State of Literacy Report.
- FGLN hosted the **"Walk for Wellness"** informational session, supported by the Michigan Civil Service Commission (MCSC) AmeriCorps small grant projects. the Michigan Civil Service Commission (MCSC) AmeriCorps small grant projects.
- FGLN organized a book drive to collect books and magazines for youth in shelters and the Genesee County Sheriff's Office I.G.N.I.T.E. program participants.
- FGLN hosted and facilitated the annual **"Day of Dialogue"** for MCC's chapter of AAWCC. The theme, "Dealing with Digital & Gender Divides," encouraged attendees to embrace the use of technology in their lives and careers.
- FGLN provided print materials to the Genesee County Literacy Coalition to support **20 adult learners**.
- FGLN launched a social media campaign for FCC.
- FGLN hosted the Flint Local Authors' Initiative's bi-monthly meeting for the planning and development of a writers' workshop and potential regional book fair.
- FGLN continues to provide direct service support to Beauty for Ashes Empowerment Center by connecting women to resources, facilitating life skills workshops, and relationship-building through one-on-one engagement.
- FGLN participated in the MCC Student Life Center's Paint & Sip event and distributed **20 books and resources**.
- FGLN supported **2 Pop-Ups** at partner events distributing books and resources: Mt. Morris McDonald's Family Night and For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum.

APRIL

- FGLN was awarded **\$500 in grant funding** through the United Way AmeriCorps Grant Writing course to develop Emotional Literacy Kits.
- FGLN hosted this year's **Flint Community Read Celebration**, which included a meet-and-greet Q&A session with Kelsey Ronan, author of "Chevy in the Hole."
- FGLN hosted and facilitated the third session of the MI Region 6 Great Start Collaborative Literacy Hub's **Equity & Literacy training** series.
- FGLN facilitated **three life skills workshops** for Beauty for Ashes.
- In partnership with Communities First, FGLN participated in a Pop-Up event at Berkley Place Apartments, distributing **118 books and 34 resources**.
- The FGLN Executive Director attended the **2023 Aspen Forum on Children and Families**, focusing on how leaders can take action to advance family prosperity and make a difference for families with low incomes.

MAY

- FGLN provided Arabic translation services and instructional support to **7 women**, including a translated kindergarten readiness booklet and video in Arabic, to support the Omar Center Adult Learning Center.
- FGLN hosted and facilitated the fourth and final session of the MI Region 6 Great Start Collaborative Literacy Hub's **Equity & Literacy training** series.
- FGLN supported the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative's Spring Fling, the University of Michigan-Flint's Officer Friendly Day, and Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village's Summer Kickoff, distributing **133 children's books and early childhood and adult literacy resources**.
- FGLN donated books to support youth book clubs in partnership with Billie Dantzler, Children's Learning Specialist at the Flint Public Library.
- FGLN received a generous **book donation** from the Order of the **Eastern Star of Michigan** (Chapter 138 Flint) consisting of **111 new children's and youth books**.
- The Flint Community Read announced the winning selection for the 2023-2024 Flint Community Read: **"Homegoing"** by Yaa Gyasi, a historical fiction novel.
- AmeriCorps members participated in the yearly Russ Mawby Signature Service Project in Detroit, cleaning up historic Rogue Park.
- FGLN facilitated a site visit at the South Flint Soup Kitchen to explore potential Adult Learning Center opportunities.
- FGLN participated in the annual fundraiser for the Genesee County Literacy Coalition at Culver's, aiming to raise money and awareness for Adult Learning Centers.

JUNE

- FGLN and the Community Read Big Table participated in the Michigan Public Radio - **Michigan Radio Reads** discussion at Comma Bookstore & Social Hub with Kelsey Ronan, author of "Chevy in the Hole."
- FGLN AmeriCorps members collaborated with Indian Hill Elementary to assemble **40 Emotional Literacy Kits** for distribution to children in need. Additionally, **25 Emotions Journals**, developed by AmeriCorps members, were given to the volunteering class.
- FGLN launched the **2023 Summer Learning Days** web portal, featuring new and themed graphics, consolidated data, and a range of summer-long resources.
- FGLN initiated a social media campaign to celebrate Juneteenth, educate our community, and amplify black voices.
- FGLN provided engagement activities for **21 women** at the Beauty For Ashes Empowerment Center.
- FGLN supported **2 Pop-Ups** at partner events, distributing **61 books and resources**: Crim Fitness Foundation and Heart of Flint community barbecue.
- FGLN facilitated an FCC Coaches' Session with 11 attendees and developed the 12th edition of the FCC newsletter.
- FGLN conducted **2 State of Literacy Report presentations** for community partners, ensuring that service providers, parents, community advocates, and groups had the most up-to-date and relevant data available to inform community work: Hasselbring Senior Center's Juneteenth Legacy & Literacy event and the North Flint Neighborhood Action Council meeting.
- FGLN received a generous **\$5,000.00 grant** from the **Rotary Club of Flint** to support Little Libraries in the community.
- The FGLN Executive Director attended the **2023 AAWCC Leaders Institute**, a five-day, content-intensive, experiential workshop based on the belief that we lead from where we are, promoting the development of women's leadership skills and qualities at every level.
- Farewell Angela!** FGLN Executive Director, Angela Hood, embarks on her next journey. FGLN and the leadership fondly acknowledge her transformative leadership that nurtured our organization and team. We extend our heartfelt best wishes for her future endeavors.

APRIL - JUNE QUARTER 4