

Prepared for the Mississippi Literacy Summit

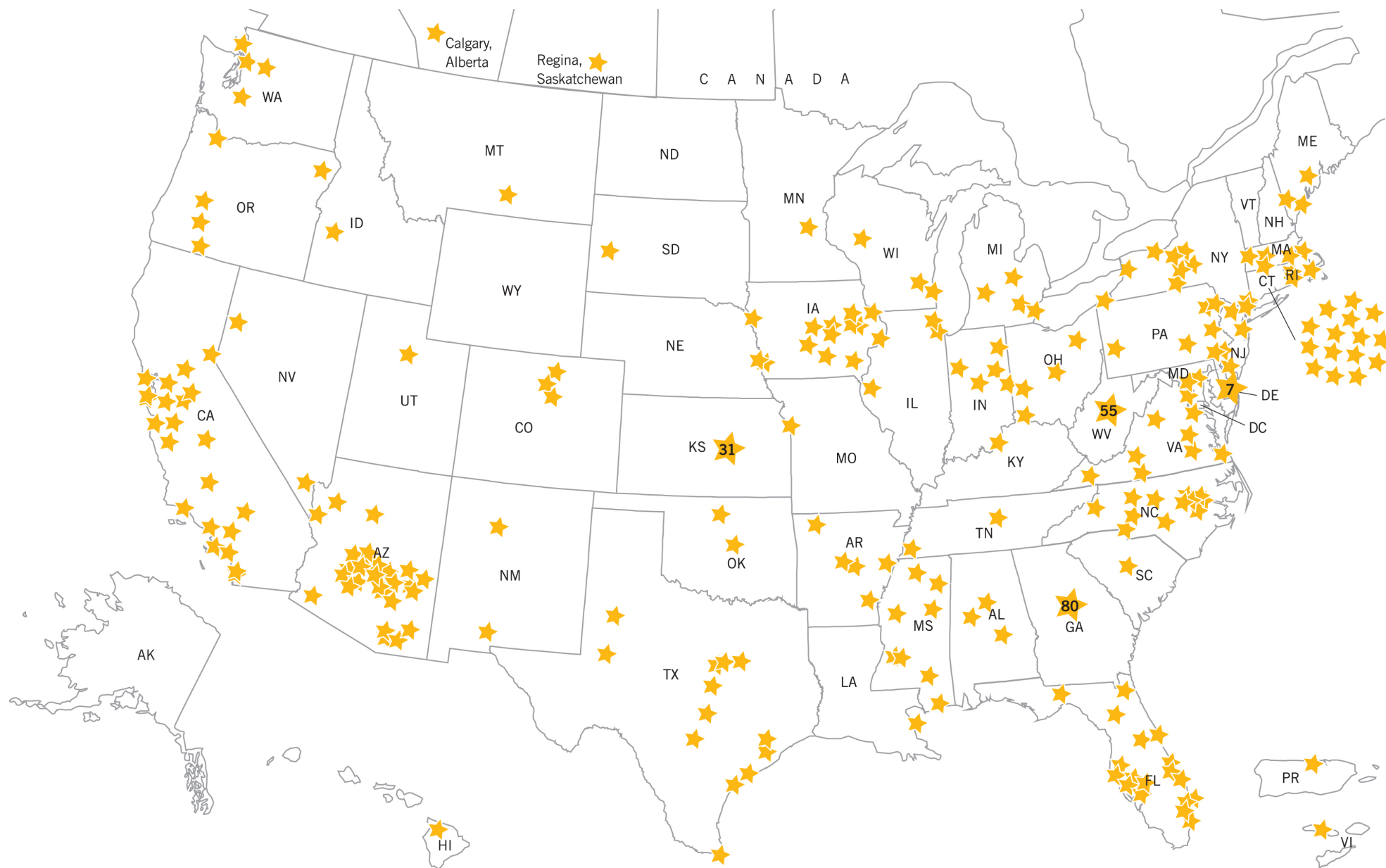
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The Campaign for GRADE-LEVEL READING

Momentum Continues to Build!

Since its launch in 2012, the GLR Communities Network has grown to include more than **300** communities, representing **45** states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and two Canadian provinces — sponsored by **4,100** local organizations, institutions and agencies and supported by more than **450** state and local funders, including **191** United Ways.



For a full listing of Grade-Level Reading Network Communities, visit gradelevelreading.net

“ The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading seeks to disrupt generational poverty by mobilizing communities to find solutions for one of the major obstacles in the pathway out of poverty — failure to read proficiently by the end of third grade. ”



On Reflection — Our Recipe for the Successful “Big Tent” Mobilization Around Grade-Level Reading

- An enabling narrative that pushes against paralysis and gridlock
- A broad ***and*** deep consensus around high school graduation
- The common-sense translation of research into accessible messages
- Goals and targets that are ambitious, achievable and actionable



On Reflection — Our “Both/And” Strategy for Investment, Engagement, Civic Action and Advocacy

- Focus on the early years ***and*** on the early grades
- Focus on early reading ***and*** on early math
- Focus on learning during school hours ***and*** on learning opportunities beyond school hours
- Focus on the children ***and*** on the adults in their lives
- Focus on program outcomes ***and*** on the hand-offs
- Focus on grade-level reading ***and*** on STEM

Success Factors

With one *consensus addition*, the “success factors” set out in *Midpoint Snapshots* were confirmed as reflecting the aspirations of all GLR communities as well as the experience of those recognized as Pacesetters and All-America Cities.

Success Factors

- Shared ownership of the result/joint accountability for its attainment;
- Demonstrated commitment to reaching the more vulnerable children;
- Local solutions to the data challenges of sharing, disaggregation and integration;
- Resources (energy, dollars, attention) tilting toward what's working;
- *Investing the time, patience and energy to nurture trusting relationships;* and
- Local funders leading, practicing “more than money philanthropy” and ensuring continuity by taking up the stewardship obligation.

“ At present, double-digit gaps persist and co-exist with good progress in every state and almost every GLR community. ”

– *Midpoint Snapshots, 2016*

Confidence Question

- ***How confident are you that low-income children in your community have real access to the services and supports for which they are eligible and need, and are provided in a manner that is properly sequenced and at the appropriate dosage and duration?***

_____Very confident _____Somewhat Confident _____Not Confident

Momentum Brakers

A set of well-recognized conditions operate as “brakes” on progress even in communities implementing strong plans. Among them are four that are pervasive, related and especially problematic.

Momentum Brakers

- Fragmented funding streams, proliferation of silos, uneven systemic coordination and chaotic delivery of services and supports with too little regard for gaps and overlaps.
- Relevant data trapped behind walls that prevent timely access for setting baselines and targets, tracking progress and informing decisions.
- Limited visibility on what is working where, why and how well.
- Misaligned philanthropic resources that fail to connect local knowledge and earned credibility with the bigger dollars, networks and research.

The Unacknowledged Challenge...

NO CONFIDENCE

+

NO PLAN

=

NO CHANCE

that low-income children will have **access** to needed services and supports delivered in the correct **sequence** (scaffolding) and at the appropriate **dosage** and **duration**.

to fix the “last mile” challenges: **chaotic delivery** of services and supports, **inconsistent access to the data** needed to inform decisions, **limited visibility** on what’s working where.

for gap-closing and game-changing progress.



GLR 2.0 Challenge: Get Better at Getting Better

Stay the course **and** double down. Prioritize developing the GLR Network into an even more effective vehicle for learning for impact and improvement.

GLR 2.0 Challenge: Get Better at Getting Better

- Enlist technology to assure more timely knowledge of what's working where and how.
- Facilitate more opportunities for local funders and like-minded national counterparts to share knowledge, collaborate and co-invest.
- Equip GLR communities with more of the tools, templates and technical supports that are contributing to success in other communities.
- Accelerate progress from outcomes to impact to scale by engaging additional partners, champions and allies.
- With respect to all of the above, build more capacity and accord more attention to the challenges and opportunities facing rural communities.

GLR 2.0 Priority Bets

- Bet big on **Parents**
 - CGLR will promote **productive partnerships with parents** as essential to attaining better outcomes and brighter futures for children of low income families.
- Bet big on **Place-Based Philanthropy**
 - CGLR will facilitate more opportunities for local funders and like-minded national counterparts to share knowledge, collaborate and co-invest.



For more information, please visit
gradelevelreading.net