

# ELC Strategic Snapshot 2023



## Vision

*Every child develops a strong foundation of learning in a community dedicated to ensuring all families have the necessary support to thrive and all children can reach their full potential*

## Mission

*To prepare children for lifelong success through quality early learning*

## Impact

*Serving 4,000 children and assisting 155 childcare providers annually*

### Access to High-Quality Early Learning Programs

- Robust Quality Childcare Rating System
- Financial Assistance to Parents
- Kindergarten Readiness Supports
- Parent Involvement

### Availability of Early Education Funding Resources

- Early Education Grants
- Blending Public and Private Investments
- Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) and Childcare Supports
- Early Learning Advocacy

## Strategic Focus

### Community Outreach and Awareness

- Business Engagement
- Awareness Campaigns on Importance of Early Learning
- Literacy Ambassadors
- Special Events with Book Giveaways

### Strengthening Early Education Infrastructure

- Assess and Support Industry Needs
- Teacher Recruitment and Retention
- Career Navigation
- Continuing Education for Childcare Directors, Teachers and Staff





# Early Learning

Coalition of Sarasota County

*Ready for Learning, Ready for Life!*

# ELC Impact Metrics 2022



## Childcare Funding

- **\$6.6 Million** in direct childcare assistance for income-eligible families with children ages birth to 5
- **1,730 Children** supported with childcare financial assistance
- **\$3.9 Million** in VPK funding serving 1,767 students in this FREE program for 4-year-olds
- **\$474,300 in Retention Bonuses** coordinated and distributed by ELC staff to 535 preschool teachers
- **130 Providers** received millions in special grants, managed by the ELC, to bolster industry
- **42 Childcare Sites** received post-hurricane funds to reopen, through local, state and national grants. All coordinated by ELC
- **Less Than 5%** in ELC administrative costs, with a staff of 21



## Quality Early Learning

- **100% of Local ELC Providers** meet the minimum state threshold on quality assessment. 60% score in the top tiers
- **98% Statistically Significant Gains** shown in both teachers and children involved in ELC-led "LENA Grow," a research-based early literacy and language program
- **75% of Infant/Toddler Teacher** participants in the ELC-exclusive "Star Babies" program showed improvement in specialty skill set
- **7,500 Books Distributed** through preschool classrooms and community events to build children's home libraries. Lesson plans or in-home activities included



## Early Education Sector Support

- **632 Preschool Teachers** (70% of local sector workforce) participated in ELC's comprehensive professional development programs. 100% showed skill set gains
- **109 New Teachers** recruited and trained in a 7-month period to address severe childcare staff shortages. Accomplished by ELC's targeted initiative "ASPIRE"
- **Resurrected Critical Credential Program (FCCPC)** and trained 16 teachers in our first cohort, managed and taught by ELC staff
- **Robust Mental Health Support** through "warmline" responses to children's behavioral concerns and teacher stresses



## Community Outreach

- **Hosted 2nd Signature Event "Storybook Street."** Bringing books to life through arts collaborations serving more than 600 children in a 3 hour period. Each family received 17 books
- **Dozens of Business Partnerships** for preschool makeovers, school supply drives, family nights, event preparation, and more
- **Vibrant Volunteer Involvement** in our "Literacy Buddy Project" with 300 individuals of all ages exchanging letters and books with 530 children throughout the year
- **Targeted Outreach Opportunities** offer resources on childcare services, mental health supports, child development, early literacy, and beyond

*The first five years of development are crucial to a child's health, well-being and overall life trajectory*