



# FLORIDA ALLIANCE OF YMCAs

## INCREASING LITERACY IN FLORIDA

### YMCA Reads

**EVIDENCE-BASED** after-school tutoring program for struggling readers in kindergarten through fourth grade in 18 high poverty elementary schools.

**YMCA READS PROGRAM** uses volunteer mentors who receive training and supervision from Site Coordinators in partnership with local YMCAs and Title I elementary schools.

**SITE COORDINATORS** recruit, train, and supervise volunteer teachers and mentors to implement the YMCA Reads program.

**SIPPS CURRICULUM** (Systematic Instruction in Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words), KidzLit, and the online reading program, RazPlus are utilized by the Site Coordinators and teachers.



**LESSON PLANS** are individualized by Site Coordinators after studying the individual scores from the I-Ready standardized diagnostic assessments. They also collaborate closely with grade-level teachers.

**OUNCE OF PREVENTION FUND** independently evaluates the outcomes of each YMCA Reads site each year.

**ENRICHMENT PILOT PROJECTS** are also funded by the Florida Alliance of YMCAs in the YMCA after-school programs in elementary schools.



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## 2020–2021 Program Year Outcomes

Served **629 children** in 16 schools throughout the state with YMCA Reads programs and **139 students** in 4 YMCA after-school enrichment programs.

On average, each student received **32 sessions** totaling approximately **45 hours** of free reading instruction and mentoring while enrolled in the program.

Students in grades K–4 **demonstrated gains in their reading comprehension** while children in grade 4, on average, increased their reading comprehension by almost **one grade level** based on an analysis of I-Ready data.

Teacher surveys, which provided an evaluation of each student, indicated that **90.9% of K–4 students** gained confidence in their reading skills. Also, **84.7% of grades 1–4 students** improved in reading comprehension throughout the 2020–2021 academic year.

Mentors (131 volunteers) delivered over **9,048 hours** of reading tutorials, with an average mentor providing 69 hours.

On an initial parent survey, **96.8% of parents** stated that their child needed to improve their reading skills. **38.8% of parents** stated that their child read for fun. On the final survey, **97.6% of parents** stated that their child’s reading skills improved since the beginning of the school year, and **87.7% of parents** stated that their child spent more time reading for fun.

### 2021–2022 Objectives

Provide additional professional development resources to Site Coordinators, establish 5 YMCA Reads Enrichment projects in YMCA after-school programs, and support 2 new YMCA Reads programs.

### 2022 Funding Request

**\$1,264,972**, recurring amount of **\$764,972**, non-recurring request of **\$500,000**