

Reading Assist Strategic Plan – FY20-FY22

Mission Statement

“Reading Assist Institute provides intensive services for young, at-risk, children with the most significant reading challenges so that they achieve reading progress and proficiency.”

The Problem:

For some students with significant reading challenges, such as dyslexia, traditional classroom reading instruction and methodologies aren't sufficient. Additional challenges, such as being an English Language Learner or coming from a high-poverty environment can make it even more difficult for students to reach reading proficiency. Students with a language-based learning disability are more than twice as likely to drop out of high school; and students from impoverished backgrounds are more than five times as likely to drop out of high school.

The Solution:

Reading Assist works in partnership with schools to identify and serve children in grades 1-3 who are in the lowest 10% in terms of reading proficiency.

We recruit, train and embed AmeriCorps members/Reading Assist Fellows willing to commit a school-year of service to provide our accredited 1:1 intervention to students from low-income backgrounds, English language learners, and students with dyslexia.

To achieve its desired impact and to position the organization for future scalability, Reading Assist will implement five key initiatives

Reading Assist Three-Year Strategy Overview

<p>1</p> <p>Serve More Children</p>	<p>Reading Assist seeks to serve children in grades K-3 who are in the lowest 10% in terms of reading proficiency. In order to most effectively serve this population in Delaware, Reading Assist will focus its growth on those school districts and schools that have higher percentages of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students with below proficient ELA scores • ELL students • Low-income students <p>Reading Assist will expand its reach by seeking growth opportunities in the following districts and counties in Delaware:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY20 – 21: Wilmington schools in the Christina and Red Clay Districts of New Castle County • FY22: Dover schools in the Capital School District in Kent County
<p>2</p> <p>Refine the Model to Increase Impact and Scalability</p>	<p>Reading Assist will use a data-driven approach to inform model refinement and increase program impact and scalability. During the next three years, Reading Assist will test model refinements aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving outcomes by expanding the program to include Kindergarten students • Increasing potential scale and magnitude of impact by developing new sources of interventionists • Improving operational efficiency to increase the number of students that each Corps member can serve
<p>3</p> <p>Build Awareness and Drive Demand</p>	<p>Reading Assist will leverage its direct service and subject matter expertise to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build awareness of the effectiveness of the Reading Assist model • Influence policy and increase systemic support and funding for the Reading Assist model
<p>4</p> <p>Expand and Diversify Sustainable Revenue Streams</p>	<p>To fuel growth and increased impact, Reading Assist will continue to expand and diversify revenue streams by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to strengthen earned income streams • Building upon its ability to secure grants from regional and national foundations • Developing its individual donor base and creating a major gifts program • Securing systems-level public funding
<p>5</p> <p>Use Data to Inform Continuous Learning</p>	<p>Reading Assist will strengthen its capacity to engage in a robust, data-driven learning agenda to deepen its understanding of program impact and organizational effectiveness. Reading Assist will use that knowledge to increase program impact and scalability and to develop best practices to share internally and externally.</p>