

What are Project Impact's key accomplishments?

Our biggest accomplishment was serving over 8,000 students, families and educators through Pre-K expansion, summer learning programs, educator training and family engagement. Project Impact also acted as a critical catalyst for expanding and deepening the community conversation around literacy.

Why is Project Impact ending?

Project Impact was launched in 2016 as a six-year initiative that will conclude in June 2022. The time horizon was intentional to enable us to develop, implement and assess programs to help close the achievement gap in Forsyth County's 3rd grade reading scores.

What about Project Impact's funding of local efforts?

Project Impact provided funding in two important ways: seed money to help jumpstart certain programs and direct funding for efforts such as new Pre-K classrooms. WS/FCS district leadership is committed to continuing this work and funding programs supporting students, teachers and families that were seeded or established in partnership with Project Impact.

How much money did Project Impact receive and how was it spent?

When Project Impact started in 2016, leaders of the initiative announced a goal of raising \$45 million. During our tenure, we received \$18.6 million in pledged funds and nearly \$3.6 million in in-kind contributions of training services and materials for a total of more than \$22 million. The Reynolds American Foundation, our lead financial sponsor, pledged \$11,875,000 in contributions.

Of the \$18.6 million in funds pledged/received, Project Impact has distributed just under \$18 million in grants to the WS/FCS district, and a grant of approximately \$50,000 to our Reading Warrior program community partner, Read Write Spell. The remaining funds of just over \$720,000 will be used to support educational initiatives in our community.

How will Project Impact's work inform future community efforts around education?

As an initiative that's been active in this community for nearly six years and with the stunning developments in our educational landscape due to the pandemic, our learnings have been extensive. We are collaborating with district and community leaders to discern how we support and continue the achievements from Project Impact and accelerate our community's capacity for future gains.