

2026 Annual Report



LIBERTY
LEARNING FOUNDATION

TEACHING • INSPIRING • EMPOWERING

LIBERTY LEARNING FOUNDATION

The Liberty Learning Foundation (LLF), a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in October 2010, teaches students to be productive and engaged citizens by reaching students at early reinforcement and retention touch points. Our civic education programs are designed to teach, inspire, and empower students to engage in their **civic responsibility, personal character, financial literacy, and career skills/exploration.**

IMPACT SINCE 2012



566,304

Students
Impacted

509

Schools &
Communities Participating

28,998

Classroom Resources
Provided

2,608

Events
Hosted

10,218

Local Heroes
Honored

3,217

Service Learning
Projects Completed

"Looking back on fifteen years of this profound calling, my heart overflows with gratitude for our passionate team, dedicated educators, donors, and community stakeholders. Together, we aren't just teaching civic pride, financial literacy, and character; we are actively securing the future of our communities. By empowering students to proudly understand and appreciate their most important title - Citizen - we are cementing an enduring American legacy of hope, purpose, and belonging for generations to come."

PATTI YANCEY | CEO AND FOUNDER OF LLF



700+ ACTIVE DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS. IT TAKES A VILLAGE!



FROM STATE LEADERS



REPRESENTATIVE GINNY SHAVER

"Through programs that emphasize character education, financial literacy, workforce readiness, and responsible citizenship, Liberty Learning Foundation is making a measurable impact in classrooms across Alabama. Their work connects students to real-world leadership opportunities while reinforcing the importance of integrity, service, and community involvement. At a time when employers, educators, and communities are calling for stronger leadership and life skills among young people, this organization is providing practical solutions that benefit students, schools, and the future workforce of our state."



REPRESENTATIVE VAN SMITH

"As a retired educator, I have encountered very few organizations that truly foster a deep love for our country and its values. Patriotism and appreciation for our nation's heritage are qualities that seem to be diminishing in today's educational system. This outstanding resource is vital in helping to inspire, educate, and develop future generations of true American patriots."



ALABAMA POWER LAKEISHA RUSSAW

"I have worked with Liberty Learning for more than a decade. The program exceeded my expectations academically and emotionally. Today [as AL Power linemen were honored as heroes], they showed us so much more: Students brought our community heroes on stage and shared the reasons why they chose to honor them. The students are already transforming our community by acting on the lessons they learned."



SUPERINTENDENT TONY WILLIS

"The Hands on Liberty Program allows our students to engage in learning with other students across the district and show thanks to community members for what they do. The culmination ceremony is such a wonderful event that brings pride in who we are as a community and collectively as a country. We are blessed to have this as part of our learning experience."



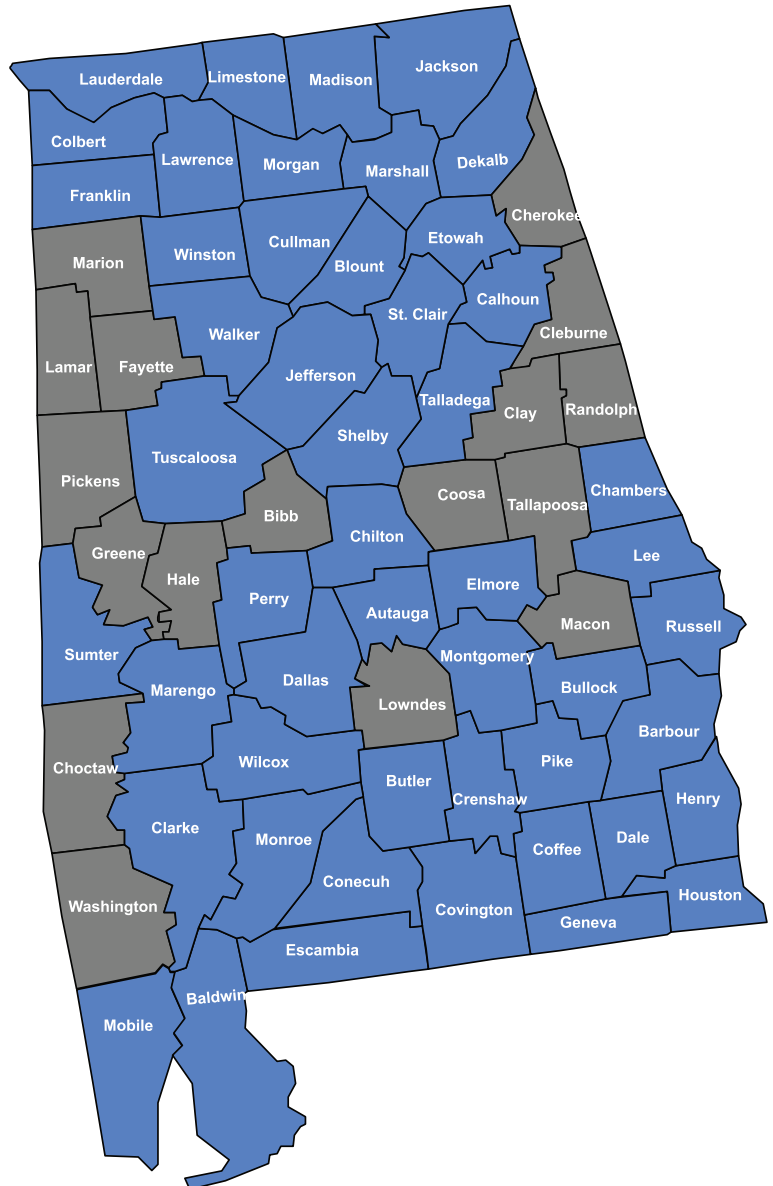
REPRESENTATIVE JEREMY GRAY

"Programs like this matter. They don't just teach, they shape mindset, build character, and create future leaders. That's why I will always be a strong supporter and advocate for initiatives like this. When we invest early in our children, we invest in stronger communities for years to come."



REPRESENTATIVE CORLEY ELLIS

"I support the Liberty Learning Foundation because it equips students with real-world skills, strong character, and the confidence to lead. The work they do creates opportunities for young people to grow not only academically, but personally and professionally as well. Their investment in our schools and communities has a lasting impact that reaches far beyond the classroom. I believe in their mission because they are helping shape the next generation of leaders with purpose, integrity, and vision."



2025-2026 Participating

** A list of participating school systems & schools can be provided upon request*



OUR ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS

345 YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE WITHIN
OUR EDUCATION TEAM

THE HANDS ON LIBERTY

38,050
STUDENTS
SERVED

21%
PRE/POST TEST
IMPROVEMENT

789
HEROES
HONORED

Abbey Bice at Southeastern School (Blount County) saw a powerful impact on her second grade students. Students were consistently engaged and excited to learn, asking thoughtful questions, sharing ideas, and growing in confidence as they discovered that their voices, choices, and actions matter. Having written her college capstone paper on the lack of social studies instruction in today's classrooms, Abbey especially valued how the program provided meaningful tools and structure to bring high-quality civic education back into the elementary classroom in an intentional and lasting way.



After being surprised with the news that she had been selected as a Torch Team Hero for her work as a counselor and trusted support person, Dr. Shabrell Parker described the recognition as both deeply meaningful and uplifting during a difficult season. Inspired by the organization's commitment to empowering students, strengthening families, and investing in communities through education, she expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve alongside leaders dedicated to creating hope, opportunity, and growth for others.

15,775
STUDENTS
SERVED

36%
PRE/POST TEST
IMPROVEMENT

317
HEROES
HONORED





OUR SECONDARY PROGRAMS

OUR PROGRAMS SERVED 61,206 STUDENTS, 454 SCHOOLS,
87 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, 51 COUNTIES



4,806
STUDENTS
SERVED

25%
PRE/POST TEST
IMPROVEMENT

599
SERVICE LEARNING
PROJECTS COMPLETED

When brainstorming service learning project ideas, one group member from Good Hope Middle noticed a free library and suggested it would make a great project for the school. The group hoped that placing the Little Library near the snack stand would encourage students to read more and use their imaginations. Teachers and students donated books to stock the library, and the group also created custom bookmarks to match the theme and include in the collection.



Citizen Promise Ambassadors first made the choice in 9th grade to take our YES Coin, pledging to make a positive difference in their community. In Dothan City Schools, those students put that commitment into action by participating in the Special Olympics and fostering a culture of inclusion, encouragement, and connection. Working alongside the athletes throughout the day, they helped students participate in events, run races, and feel confident and supported during every activity. Their presence built friendships, strengthened confidence, and created a meaningful sense of belonging that extended far beyond the competition, leaving lasting memories of pride and achievement for everyone involved.

3,295
STUDENTS
SERVED

692
CITIZEN ACTIONS
COMPLETED

14
GRANTS
AWARDED





OUR RESULTS

TEACHER SURVEY SHOWS STEADY (AND IMPRESSIVE) RESPONSES TO PROGRAMMING

HANDS ON LIBERTY

"My favorite part of LLF is how it fosters patriotism, which is needed in today's times. It helps students realize the whys of all the symbols and celebrations in our lives, and for those who are an English Language Learner, it can help them feel more a part of the USA."

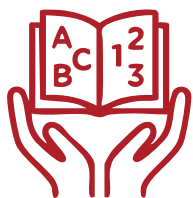
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VALERIE SMALLEY
HENAGAR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
DEKALB COUNTY

SUPER CITIZEN

"The Super Citizen Program promotes responsibility, kindness, and accountability, and my students are excited to model these traits daily! It's been an inspiring and empowering experience for them - and for me as their teacher."

-
MADISON WALKER
STRAUGHN ELEMENTARY
COVINGTON COUNTY

TEACHERS AGREE OR STRONGLY AGREE THAT OUR PROGRAMMING ALIGNS WITH THE FOLLOWING:



CLASSROOM
LITERACY
95%



APPRECIATION
98%



CHARACTER
99%



INSPIRATION
95%



CAREER
EXPLORATION
96%



COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT
94%

AMERICAN CHARACTER

"This Program had a meaningful and lasting impact on my students by helping them develop essential character traits such as responsibility, respect, perseverance, and civic pride. Through hands-on activities, discussions, and real-world connections, students were able to move beyond learning about citizenship to actually practicing it in their daily lives."

-
MICHAELYN ABERNATHY
PIKE LIBERAL ARTS
PIKE COUNTY

CITIZEN PROMISE

"I am truly grateful for the Reality Check that provides my students with meaningful, real-world financial experiences that prepare them for success beyond the classroom. This type of hands-on experience has increased student engagement and helps students see the direct connection between classroom learning and real-life responsibilities."

-
ILLANA N. FREEMAN
CARVER 9TH GRADE ACADEMY
DOTHAN CITY

STORIES FROM STUDENTS WHO CONNECT AND ANSWER CALLS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES



LILY SHADECK

As a Citizen Promise Ambassador, Lily Shadeck found ways to engage deeply with her community and uncover new opportunities. She authored a children's book, *The Dynamic Duo and the Mix-Up Magic*, to help break the stigma surrounding dyslexia after her twin brother's diagnosis. Inspired to go further, she launched her own nonprofit and now shares her book across the community, using connections built through Citizen Actions to expand her impact.

TROY UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

A group of young men participated in a hands-on partnership with Troy University Athletics. Students supported football operations through facility clean-up, equipment preparation, and practice-day assistance, while building relationships with college athletes who became powerful role models. They described the experience as unforgettable, with strong support from their families. This effort highlights the power of strong partnerships between home, school, and community.



DIAPERS TO LIGHTHOUSE WOMEN'S CENTER

One service-learning project from Demopolis Middle brought together a group of students and The Lighthouse Women's Center to support families in need of diapers for their babies. Located in Demopolis, AL, the clinic is dedicated to serving families facing unplanned pregnancies by providing compassionate care, resources, and support. Through this partnership, students were able to make a meaningful impact in their community while learning the value of service and compassion.



OUR LEGACY

ONCE OUR STUDENTS, NOW OUR TEAMMATES

MADELINE COOPER

Where did my love for America start? Why did I register to vote the moment I turned 18? Why do I have a deep care for community and country, and why has that been instilled in me from such a young age? Upon reflecting on my life, my love for our country and my community began with the Liberty Learning Foundation.

At nine years old, I remember the pride swelling in my chest as I promised to do good, help others, be responsible for my actions, give back to my community, and be a Super Citizen. I am proof that our programs make a difference, and now I have the privilege through my position at LLF to bring those same lessons to students across our great state on a much larger scale.



LITTLE
MADELINE!

LITTLE
REINABEL!



REINABEL GUTIERREZ

I pursued my passion for audio and technical engineering through Calhoun Community College, which led me to my role as a sound technician with the Liberty Learning Foundation's events team. After starting this job, I realized I had actually participated in the Super Citizen program as an elementary student, something that meant even more to me once I made that connection. It sparked a renewed excitement, and I went home and found my original Super Citizen graduation certificate as a reminder of that experience. Looking back, I can see how those early lessons helped shape my path, and I'm proud to now be on the other side of the program, giving back to students and helping create the same kind of impact it had on me.





OUR GROWTH

LONG-TERM GOAL TO PROVIDE EACH GRADE LEVEL PROGRAM TO EVERY REQUESTING SCHOOL SYSTEM

WE EXPANDED OUR PROGRAMS BY

3,452

Students

45

Schools

7

Districts

3

Counties

IN THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

“Through our partnership with Liberty Learning, we are turning the Alabama Course of Study into meaningful, real-world experiences for our students. Watching our youngest learners embrace civics, character, patriotism, and citizenship with such excitement is inspiring. It’s a powerful example of what’s possible when high expectations meet authentic engagement.”

MIKE DARIA, Ed.D. - SUPERINTENDENT (TUSCALOOSA CITY SCHOOLS)





OUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

TEACHING THE FINANCIAL PRINCIPLES WE PRACTICE

FINANCIAL LITERACY ACROSS ALL PROGRAMS

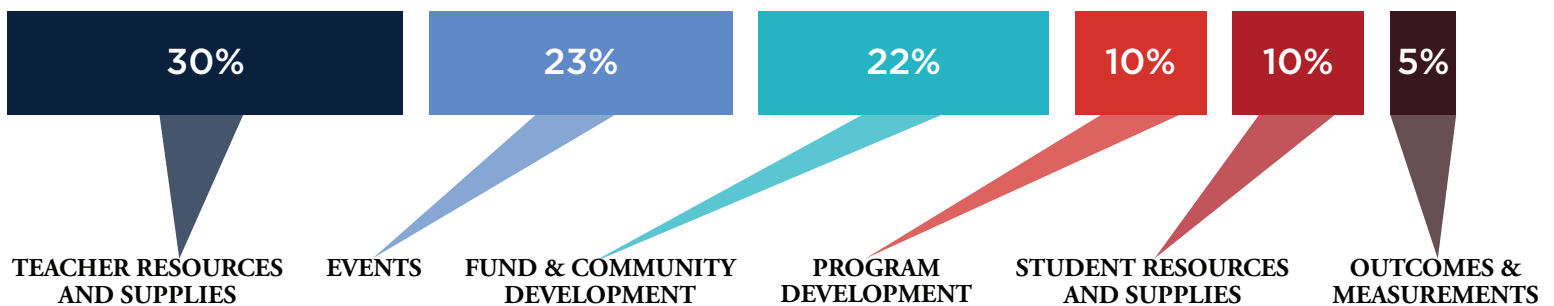


FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

STRENGTHENING OUR FOUNDATION

	2024-2025 AUDITED	2025-2026 ESTIMATED	IMPACT
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$2,440,607	\$2,612,635	Expanded donor support strengthens mission delivery
EXPENSES	\$2,106,194	\$2,499,618	Increased operational capacity to meet growing demand
NET ASSETS	\$683,358	\$796,375	Healthy net assets support long-term sustainability

ALLOCATION OF FUNDING



Administrative and overhead costs are funded by a generous donor. All donations go directly to providing Liberty Learning Foundation programs to Alabama schools.



OUR LEADERSHIP

2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Crossroads Civic Engagement Center



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NBCT,
National Educational Consultant &
Alabama Educator



MARIA JOHNSON
Retired
Educator



LILETTA M. JENKINS
Manager,
Alabama Children's Policy Council

"Liberty Learning has embraced the call of civic duty and proudly passed on the same love of country, service, and historical understanding first instilled in me by my two favorite veterans, my father and grandfather. This devoted organization actively passes on the lessons of liberty echoed by past generations of great Americans. For 13 years, I've been blessed to serve with an incredible team, helping shape a generation of citizens who are informed, empowered, and ready to lead."

-RUSS WILLIAMS

Visit our website to read impactful bios and encouraging messages from our Board of Directors and Advisory Council!

LIBERTYLEARNING.ORG

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Grace Life Development, LLC



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Optometrist,
Eyecare Associates



KATHI TEW
Community
Volunteer

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MONICA GRACE MITCHELL
Elementary & Special Programs
Coordinator, Conecuh County Schools



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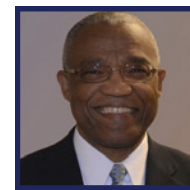
JESSE MCDANIEL
UniServ Director,
Alabama Education Association



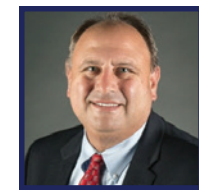
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How You CAN HELP



1. MAKE A DONATION

Sponsor educational materials and program development.



2. VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Engage with students and teachers in their classrooms.



3. PARTNER WITH US

Help extend our outreach to new Alabama communities



4. CONNECT WITH US

getinvolved@libertylearning.org
www.libertylearning.org

**YOU WILL HAVE OVER 300 OPPORTUNITIES
TO ATTEND AN EVENT IN THE
2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR!**