



Strategic Plan

2022-2023



TheLeapYear.org

WHO WE ARE

Leap Year is a nonprofit organization that improves college success and early age literacy in metro-Atlanta. We accomplish this by recruiting first generation high school graduates to serve as second grade reading coaches through our yearlong community service and college readiness program.

Our mission is to use an intergenerational approach to equip elementary and recent high school graduates with the tools to achieve their academic and leadership potential. We envision a world where all children reach their full potential.

THE PROBLEM

Many of Atlanta's children do not have a strong foundation in reading. **A student who can't read on grade level by 3rd grade is 30% less likely to graduate high school, with only 25% of them likely to even register to take the ACT/SAT*, let alone enroll in and graduate from college.**

*Sources: Learn4Life Atlanta, Governor's Office of Student Achievement (GOSA)



THE NEED



30%

Drop in reading fluency among 2nd & 3rd graders*

40%

The difference in median earnings between high school graduates and those with a bachelors degree**

42%

The percentage of 2nd-graders scored below benchmark reading level***

OUR INNOVATION

The most innovative part of our model is the ripple effect created by our two-generation approach. Studies show that a student's educational trajectory is often cemented by the third grade. Our Fellows tutoring our second graders every day is incredibly impactful because they are not only helping to improve reading skills and putting students on the right academic path, but because the Fellows are young, local, and look like their students, they also serve as needed role models.

OUR MODEL

Elementary Reading Tutoring

✓ Leap Year Fellows serve daily as elementary teacher assistants and reading tutors



✓ Our literacy intervention has been shown to help increase our students reading skills

✓ Fellows are powerful mentors, inspiring our young students to be college students

College and Career Readiness

✓ Leap Year helps our Fellows enroll in free GSU English and math classes with academic tutoring and support



✓ Partner with local corporations to provide career mentorship

✓ Our Fellows gain invaluable leadership and professional skills while earning a monthly stipend

Year One Goals:

By 6/30/2023

- 1 Scale an Impactful Two Generation
- 2 Grow Financial Resources
- 3 Recruit & Sustain Strong Staff, Volunteers & an Influential Board
- 4 Enhance Infrastructure to Support Growth
- 5 Refine and Update Program Success Measures



Significantly Scale Impactful Two Generation Model



Expand Class of 2023 to 20+ Leap Year Fellows tutoring over 200 elementary students at three elementary schools



Determining program scale vision for 2-3 years growth and cost associated



Work to secure multi-year elementary school partners



GROW & SUSTAIN FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Finalize earned revenue model for elementary school partners

Create package for corporate volunteering and sponsorship

Begin building strong corporate engagement partnerships for volunteering, donations, branding, and alumni internships

Explore Summer alumni programming and earned revenue experimentation
Example: 2022 Summer internship partnership with East Atlanta Kids Club





Recruit & Sustain a Strong Staff, Volunteers & an Influential Board



Develop tactics to retain strong staff members
(ex strengthen benefits, hire for full-time positions, etc)



Secure paid staff and/or consultants to support and
expand recruiting, marketing, and alumni engagement



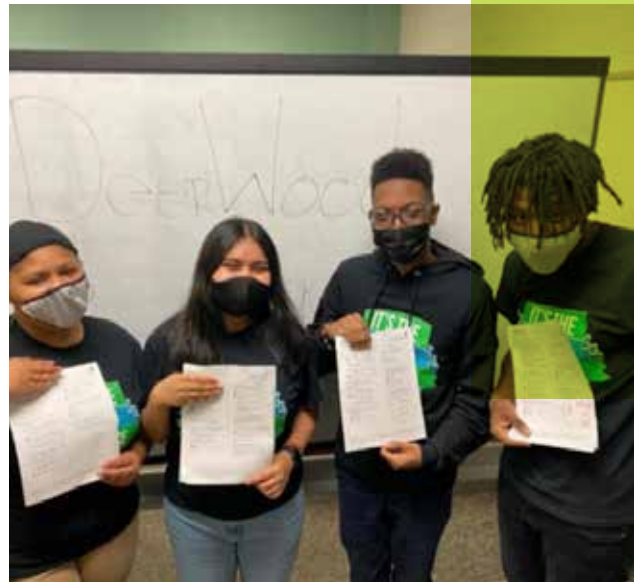
Consulting Support - create clarity on roles and return
on investments on each of Leap Year's consultants



Strengthen board engagement by creating well defined
roles for board members and each committees

Enhance Infrastructure to Support Growth

- ✓ Maintaining Safety COVID Protocols
- ✓ Update fleet of newer, low maintenance 15 passenger vans
- ✓ Space/location consistency




Refine and Finalize Evaluation Measures


- Determine qualitative and socio-emotional success measures and outcomes
- Conduct Fellow and teacher interviews/surveys
- Research benchmarks and establish impactful yet feasible post-secondary targets
- Hire evaluation consultant







LESSONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS


 Developed a strong, evidence-based ACT prep and remediation curriculum resulting in average 3+ gains on ACT exam, and all LYF passing the Accuplacer.

 Formal partnership with Georgia State University to transition Leap Year Fellows from our program to become full time GSU students

 Over 85% of the second-grade students the LYF tutored showed growth in their reading scores- a huge improvement over last year according to the principal.

 Leap Year and its founder, Amber Scott, have been recognized as: a winner of the 2017

 Average Leap Year Fellow grade in their Georgia State University (GSU) English class was 90%.

 WeWork Incubate Creator Award, 2018 Echoing Green Fellow, and 2019 Jaffe Award \$100,000 grand prize winner.

OUR PARTNERS



To learn more about Leap Year visit TheLeapYear.org, call 404-500-9946 or email info@theleapyear.org

