

Teaching Matters



Excellent **teaching** for **every** student.

Fiscal Year 2023 Report

September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023



Message from the CEO

Teaching Matters was founded on the belief that every student has the right to receive excellent teaching, regardless of their zip code.

Since 1994, we have been dedicated to providing high-impact professional learning programs and services to schools and teachers across New York City, Newark, and Bridgeport, reaching more than 672,000 students and 38,000 teachers in over 1,600 schools.

Our research-based approach has demonstrated statistically significant improvements in student outcomes, from early literacy interventions and accelerated math programs to social emotional learning and culturally responsive instruction.

Teaching Matters has remained fully committed to our mission, and we are proud of the following accomplishments from this past year:

- We were selected by the NYC Public Schools as a key partner for the implementation of its groundbreaking NYC Reads initiative, extending our work to an additional 70 schools.
- We expanded our Foundational Literacy Matters early literacy intervention (formerly Jumpstart), reaching 180 teachers and 4,125 students, including 788 pre-readers. Of those pre-readers, 83% became readers at the end of 10 weeks.
- We implemented our Early Reading Matters program in 47 schools, reaching 1,125 teachers and 27,000 students resulting in significant reading proficiency gains, including a 50% increase in the percentage of 1st and 2nd graders whose independent benchmark scores met grade-level expectations.

- We continued our work in all of Newark's Public School Pre-K programs, focused on literacy, language, and social-emotional developmental support; and expanded our Pre-K offering to over five NYC public schools through the implementation of a novel intervention support model, while also branching out into Bridgeport, Connecticut.

As we look towards the new year, we are committed to serving teachers and students in an ever evolving educational landscape, meeting their specific needs and building supports that empower communities. Our goal is to secure a sustained \$2M per year for the next five years, helping us reach 500,000 students across the schools we serve. We hope you will join us!

Thank you for everything you've helped us accomplish to date, and we look forward to continuing the journey in 2024 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Lynette Guastaferrro
Chief Executive Officer

Empowering Teachers to Reach Their Full Potential



[Click Here for Video](#)

NYC Reads

Prioritizing Reading as Fundamental

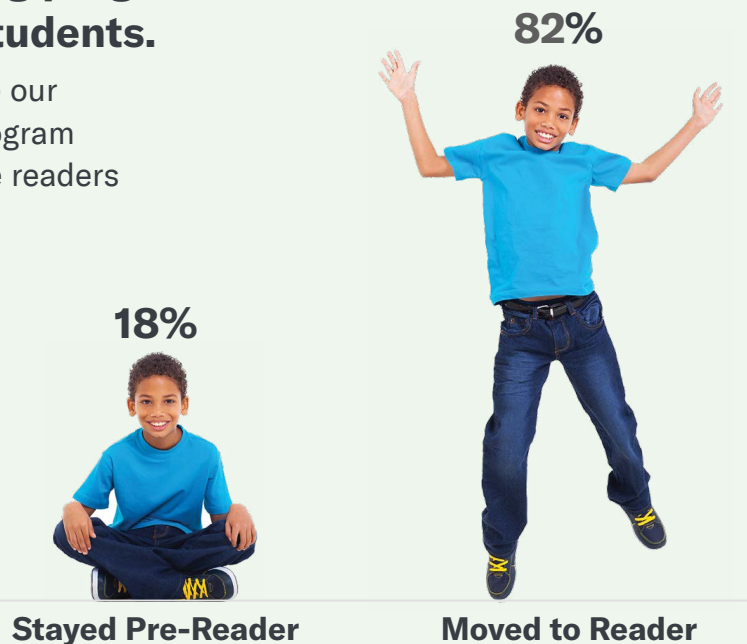
New York City is in the midst of a very exciting moment and we are proud to be a pivotal partner in a groundbreaking, citywide campaign—[NYC Reads](#)—to dramatically strengthen literacy outcomes for students.

NYC Reads marks a historic curriculum shift in the nation's largest school district. This initiative will standardize literacy curriculum, fundamentally altering the trajectory of the City's children by ensuring every student becomes a proficient reader. It brings scientifically proven methods of reading and phonics to all of the City's public school students, starting with early childhood programs and elementary schools.

This year, Teaching Matters' work with NYC Reads will reach more than 30,000 students across 70 schools in Brooklyn and Queens, many of whom are under-served and historically marginalized. Our goal is to ensure all teachers are developed in the teaching of a reading curriculum based on the principles of reading science.

Teaching Matters reading programs improve outcomes for students.

When pre-reader students receive our Foundational Literacy Matters program (formerly Jumpstart), 82% become readers in just 10 weeks.



“Our greatest accomplishment through our work with Teaching Matters this year is **effective refinement of our ELA, Social Studies, and Math curriculum as well as improved teacher practice.**”



–Principal, Bronx, New York

Math Matters

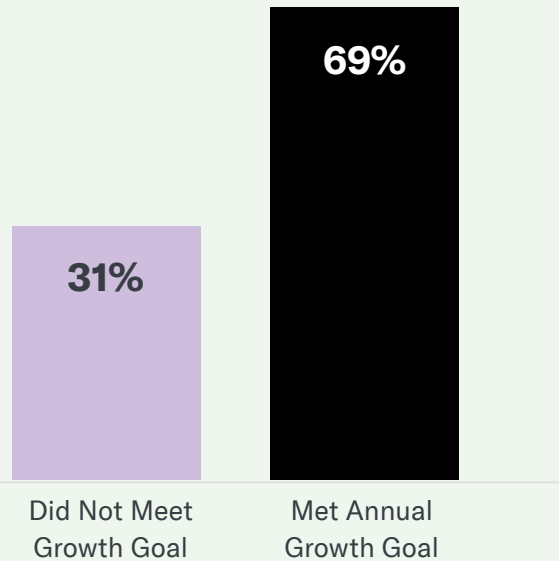
Accelerating Student Learning in Mathematics

Recent test score data shows sharp declines in math proficiency for New York City's students - especially Latino and Black children, and those experiencing poverty. Our Math Matters program enhances math instruction in schools through learning acceleration, which is proven to be more effective than remediation when addressing unfinished learning. Our coaches partner with educators to ensure they have the support they need to provide their students with rigorous, grade-level instruction, catching them up to pre-pandemic levels and beyond.

During the 2022-2023 school year, we implemented Math Matters in 63 schools. The program has demonstrated consistent success over the past two cycles of implementation. Among eight of the schools that we assessed, 64% of students reached their objectives in the first year of the program while 71% of students met their growth goals in year two. Ultimately, our Math Matters program puts kids back on track in elementary and middle-school mathematics, so that our City's most vulnerable students will be ready for high school and beyond!

Our Results

**Assessment Scores*
of Students Who
Received Math Matters**



*Based on i-Ready Assessments

Our Reach and Impact

DURING THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

248
schools
supported

3,370
teachers
coached

101,150
students
impacted



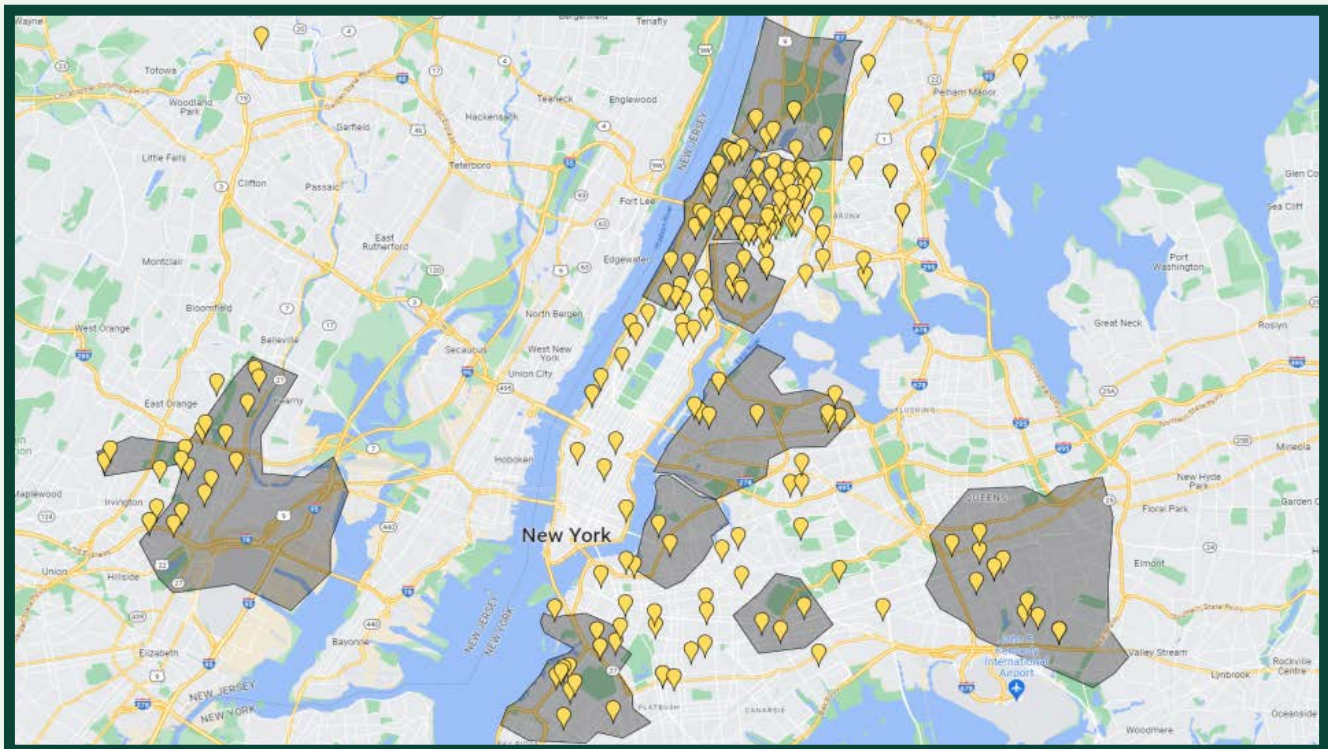
Expansion + Growth

Teaching Matters is proud of our continued growth as we begin work in Bridgeport, Connecticut and enter our third year of partnership with schools in Newark, New Jersey. This past summer, our coaches provided professional development to nearly 700 pre-kindergarten and early childhood educators across Bridgeport and Newark during their in-service week.

We delivered 33 hours of training aimed at equipping teachers with a deep understanding of high-leverage pedagogical practices, along with tangible materials for effective classroom implementation.

The training sessions were specifically tailored to emphasize literacy and language, with a focus on phonics and foundational skills. Moreover, we addressed the importance of adapting and modifying the curriculum to support children with special needs. The 700 educators who participated in our training will positively impact between 5,000 and 8,000 children during the current school year.

2022-2023 School Year



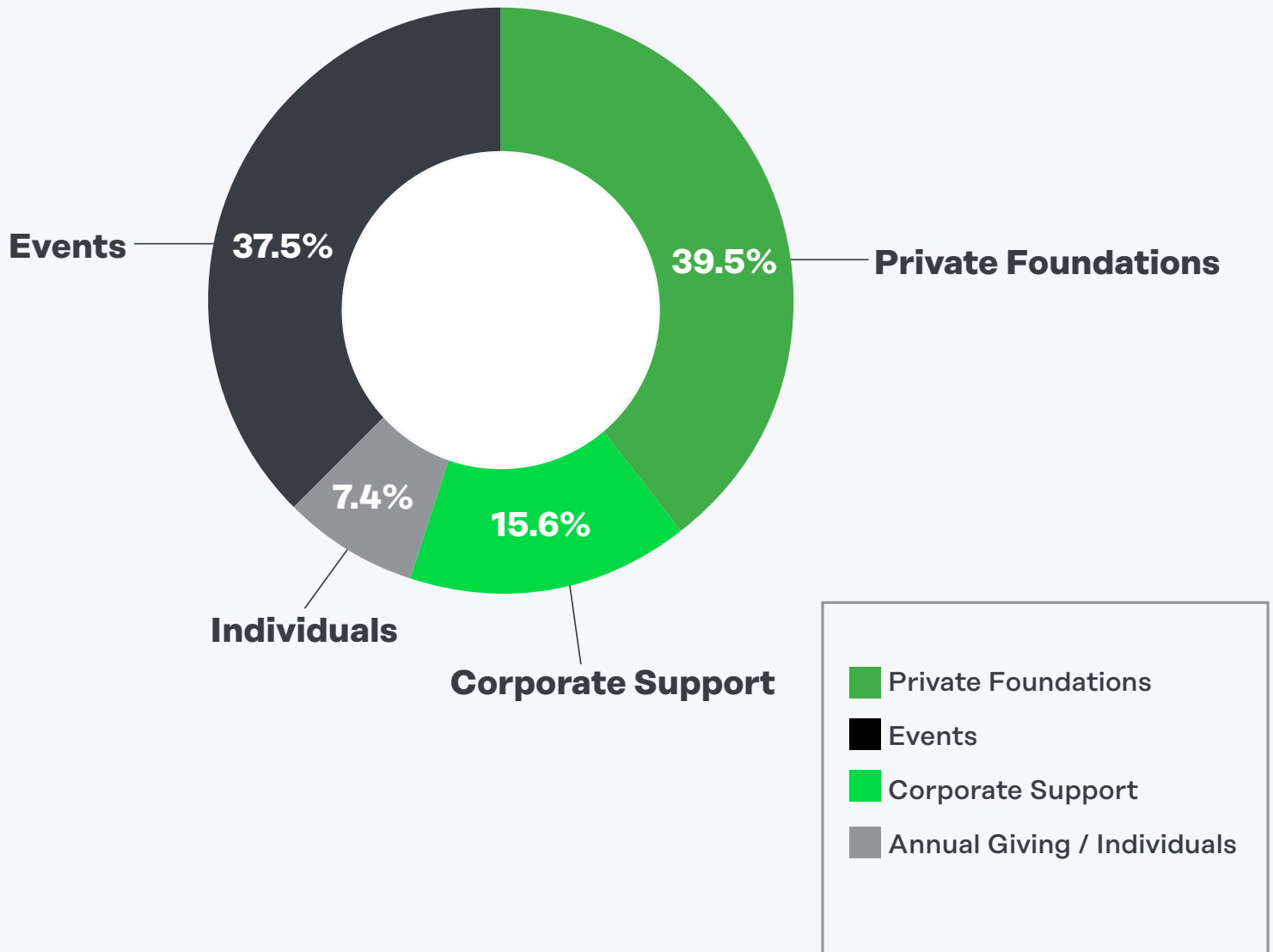
“Our Kindergarten students are now leaving proficient readers, **with more than 40% of students reading on or above grade level.**”



–Instructional Coach, Bronx, New York

Fiscal Year 2023 Giving Breakdown

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 - AUGUST 31, 2023



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SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 - AUGUST 31, 2023

\$1,000,000+

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\$75,000 - \$999,999

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Heckscher Foundation for Children

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Sonny Kalsi

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\$15,000 - \$74,999

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“Assured Guaranty believes that educational opportunities should be available to all students regardless of background and income level. Teaching Matters’ work to support educators in underserved schools strongly aligns with this belief. **Teaching Matters’ decades of experience and unique programming fills a critical gap in our educational system that produces tangible results in student outcomes.** We are proud to support this important cause.”

–Matthew Naclerio, Assured Guaranty

In the News

“K-8 math coach Elly Blanco-Rowe and Jen Gleason of Teaching Matters...said **most of the math teachers they work with had not previously been trained to provide systemic, evidence-based interventions for struggling math students.**”

EducationWeek, [Dyscalculia and Dyslexia: Reading Disabilities Offer Insights for Math Support](#)

“Many, many schools have adopted a coherent phonics approach over the past few years, but **the difference is we’re now organizing the infrastructure...to be able to work together around a common playbook,**” said Lynette Guastaferro, CEO of Teaching Matters...”

Chalkbeat, [Reading instruction is getting an overhaul in NYC. Here’s how that could affect your school.](#)

“As [schools] consider qualitative information about students’ feelings, those at Teaching Matters also pay close attention to quantitative data. That allows the organization to track students before they become habitually absent to try to engage them. **For the kind of intervention Teaching Matters performs, the data is ‘non-negotiable.’**”

EdSurge, [A Third of Homeless Students Are Chronically Absent. Would an ‘Attendance Culture’ Help?](#)



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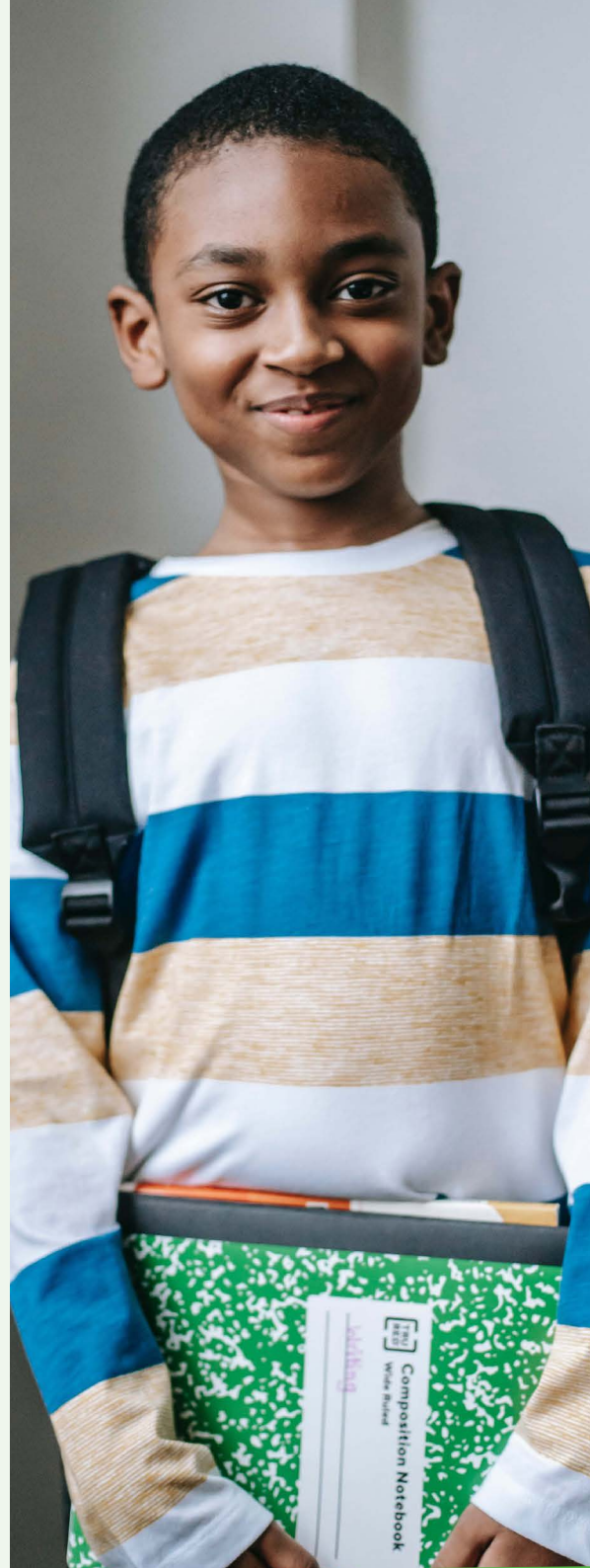
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Thank you
for all of your
support!

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Teaching Matters