

## Afterschool Improves Literacy in Georgia

**6 out of 10 children (63%)**

completing third grade in Georgia were not prepared to meet the literacy challenges of the next grade level (2021)<sup>1</sup>



### This leads to a cycle of low literacy<sup>2,3</sup>

- Struggle with learning and fall behind
- Discipline problems
- Perform poorly in 8th grade math
- Higher chances of becoming teen parents
- Higher chances of dropping out of high school
- More likely to spend time in prison
- Struggle with unemployment
- Poor health & shorter life expectancy

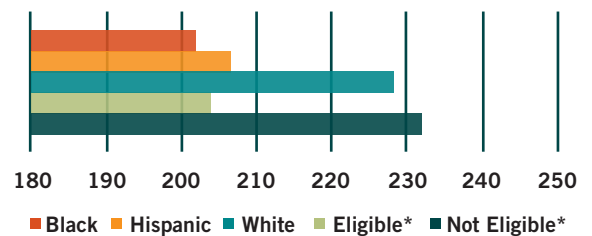
**1 million Georgia adults** have low literacy and earn 30% less than adults with a HS diploma<sup>4</sup>

**72%**

chance of being at lowest reading level for children with parents with low literacy levels<sup>6</sup>

Costs the state **\$1.26 billion** in social services and lost tax revenue annually<sup>5</sup>

### National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading (2022)<sup>7</sup>



Average scores of Georgia students.

\*Free or Reduced Lunch (indicator of family income)

### SUMMER IS CRUCIAL

**2-3 months** reading skills loss for low income children<sup>8</sup>

**2/3** of the achievement gap in reading between low and middle income children by 9th grade due to summer learning loss<sup>9</sup>

## Impact of Afterschool

Afterschool and summer learning programs provide students with the additional supports they need to help build a strong foundation in literacy, including reading, writing and critical thinking skills.

**7 out of 10 parents**

report that their children's programs provide opportunities for reading or writing and homework assistance.<sup>10</sup>

21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) are federally funded afterschool and summer learning programs that offer opportunities to youth across Georgia.

**21st CCLC programs in Georgia**

**77%**

of regular attendees improved their grade or maintained an A, B, or C grade in ELA (2019)<sup>11</sup>

**One 21st CCLC program served 60 students**

**100%**

of regularly attending middle school students increased at least one letter grade in ELA & 97% promoted to next grade<sup>12</sup>

### Afterschool provides opportunities for:<sup>13, 14</sup>

- Project based learning opportunities
- Strong literacy foundation
- Group activities
- Peer-to-peer learning
- Critical thinking skills
- Communications skills

### Regular attendance lead to:<sup>15, 16</sup>

- Significant gains in reading skills
- Improved grades
- Improved attendance
- Improved attitude towards school
- Higher chances of graduation