The Power of Partnerships

Partnerships with schools and districts, researchers, universities, funders, agencies, and other collaborators enable us to test and refine promising practices with the potential for large-scale impact on literacy achievement.

Narrowing the Achievement Gap:
Connecticut's Successful Reading Plan
Pilot Reading Initiative Shows Dramatic Results

UConn Professor Michael Coyne presented the results of a multi-year, multi-faceted reading initiative last week at the state Capitol. "Schools adopting the CT K-3 Reading Model for three years or more had more than doubled the number of students meeting grade-level literacy goals, while also reducing the number of students at significant risk for reading failure by more than half."

"While much will be made of the significant improvements in student performance, Coyne said the initiative also shows that providing teachers ongoing support, training, and sufficient resources is critical to the model’s success." In our role in this partnership with UConn, Hill for Literacy, the Commission on Children, and the Connecticut State Department of Education, Literacy How Mentors deliver embedded professional development to K-3 teachers in Alliance schools. View the video of the briefing, the
presentations, and more [here](http://www.sustainable.org/governance/publicprivate-partnerships).

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**Stepping Stones to Open Early Learning Center at Fairfield University**

"Fairfield University and Stepping Stones Museum for Children have announced their partnership to bring a revamped early childhood learning center to the University’s campus ... The partnership is a result of a long-standing relationship between Fairfield University, Stepping Stones, and Literacy How, Inc., an organization dedicated to best practice applications of early literacy research. Launched in 2011 to help improve school readiness and reduce the achievement gap among young children, the Early Language and Literacy Initiative (ELLI) is a high quality, year-round multidisciplinary approach to early childhood education based on theory, research and community wisdom about what all children need to learn and grow successfully ..." Read the full [story](http://www.sustainable.org/governance/publicprivate-partnerships).

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**The Ultimate Block Party: Mathews Park, Norwalk, May 5, 2016, 5:00-8:00 pm**

Literacy How is proud to be participating in [Norwalk’s Ultimate Block Party](http://www.sustainable.org/governance/publicprivate-partnerships) on May 5 from 5-8 pm. Look for our tent on the Mathews Park Great Lawn where we will be offering playful learning experiences intentionally designed to prevent summer learning loss.

Hosted by Stepping Stones Museum for Children, in partnership with [Norwalk ACTS](http://www.sustainable.org/governance/publicprivate-partnerships) and the [Ultimate Block Party](http://www.sustainable.org/governance/publicprivate-partnerships), Norwalk’s Ultimate Block Party is a FREE outdoor event just outside the museum in Mathews Park featuring games, live music, animals, educational activities and fun for the entire family!

To help establish the link between play and learning, each visitor will receive a “PlayBook” which will help guide families through playful learning activities at home, as well as a printed map of Mathews Park to use as a guide to the activities. Norwalk ACTS' staff will be on hand to talk about Collective Impact and summer learning opportunities for all ages.

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**Our Mission is to EMPOWER TEACHERS to ensure that every child learns to read by third grade.**

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[Powered by Emma](http://www.sustainable.org/governance/publicprivate-partnerships)