

Momentum

IMPACT REPORT 2022-2023



united
TO LEARN



UNITED TO LEARN mobilizes community partnerships to close opportunity gaps in 75 Dallas ISD public elementary schools.

On the cover:
A child at Dan D. Rogers enjoys new physical education equipment, given to the school through our U2L Partnership.
Photo credit: Simon Luna Studios



Our moments. The moment.

According to the laws of physics, momentum is the product of mass and velocity. **Momentum**, like our work, **possesses magnitude and direction.**

Magnitude implies scale. Our growth this past year with the addition of 24 more schools reflects our commitment to scale.

Accelerating progress requires intentional direction. Our expanded programming that remains tailored to each school community, affirms our dedication to our **vision of accelerated student achievement.**

I am grateful that in the surge of activity, amid our momentum, we also savored the moments. We hope you enjoy these **spotlighted moments from the year** that best exemplify the character of our work. Within these moments, transformative progress is set forth. Within these moments, we deepen relationships, build fortitude, and create impact.

Now marks a pivotal moment in our continued climb.

Last spring, we expanded our network, engaged more volunteers, and onboarded new team members and U2L Liaisons to bolster our community impact. While remaining true to our mission and research-driven investment lanes, we built a coalition of trust among our 75 U2L Schools, team and partners.

As headlines decried double digit inflation, rising mental health concerns and record level educator shortages, our programs grew to fill in the gaps with curated supports, critical learning tools, tailored teacher training, and targeted literacy interventions. All are key levers to meet growth targets and accelerate student achievement.

We thank our educators for embracing our partnerships and for their willingness to entrust our team to share in their journey: challenges and achievements.

We thank our supporters, our board, advisors, investors, and friends who fortify the United to Learn network. **Because of you, our schools are gaining this momentum.**

Our intentional supports powered U2L Schools toward evidenced gains in literacy achievement and campus climate and culture. (See p.13)

We partnered with Vizient to celebrate reading, bringing joy and inspiration to 576 students at Cigarroa Elementary. (See p.4)

We worked with Truist to execute hero-sized, unforgettable impact for students, educators and families from George W. Bush, Charles Rice, and Cesar Chavez elementary schools. (See p.6)

We witnessed the inspiring commitment of thousands of volunteers through Community Campus Day and the unwavering dedication of our amazing U2L Liaisons. (See p.8)

We harnessed every moment of the past year to propel us to today, this seminal, defining moment.

The momentum is building. Our students, our educators, our schools need your continued support to fuel continued acceleration.

Join us in Fueling Potential, United to Learn's campaign for fulfilling student promise, expanding equitable opportunity, and igniting our future workforce across all Title I Dallas ISD elementary schools.

In partnership,

ABIGAIL WILLIAMS FOUNDER AND CEO

The path to accelerated student achievement



UNITED TO LEARN SERVES AS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

Fueled by investors and volunteers, we offer tailored, research-driven solutions that best support the needs of our U2L Schools. Our wrap-around model involves an intricate partnership of educational expertise, community organizations, individual volunteers, schools, and businesses that work together in a collaborative approach.

Whether we are providing a U2L School with social and emotional support, training teachers on literacy instruction, or refreshing hallways with joyful murals, we work closely with school staff to meet every student where they are and ensure every solution is a contributing driver in accelerating student achievement.

Our pillars

OUR PILLARS ARE ROOTED IN THE BRAIN SCIENCE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT



A CHILD NEEDS TO FEEL CALM AND SAFE TO LEARN. Studies show that prolonged exposure to trauma, systemic inequity, food insecurity, and domestic unrest causes toxic stress and impairs brain development, challenging a child's ability to learn. Social and emotional wellness is the foundation of our work.



A CHILD NEEDS TO BE INSPIRED TO LEARN. Characteristics of a school's built environment can account for 25% of a student's learning progress as well as how students envision their long-term potential.



A CHILD NEEDS TO READ TO THRIVE. Reading proficiently by the end of third grade is a pivotal benchmark in a young learner's educational development, which is why we consider it our "North Star" metric. Until third grade, students are learning to read; in all subsequent grades, they are reading to learn. A child reading on level in third grade is three times more likely to be on a college-ready pace.



A CHILD NEEDS TO KNOW OTHERS CARE. We envision a city where we all embrace our collective responsibility and rally together to accelerate academic achievement. When we work together to understand the systemic challenges faced by children in our neighborhood schools and then take action to impact change, we can have a monumental positive effect.

“

WE ARE LOOKING AT THE FUTURE.

We know that investing in the students of Dallas ISD is actually investing in our future community.”

MONICA DAVY

SVP, Chief Culture, Diversity &
Impact Officer
Vizient



On this page: Monica Davy of Vizient reads to a child at Cigarroa Elementary during their U2L Book Bash where every child takes home a new book.



Wow moment



The WHY

Having books in the home help increase literacy and numeracy skills. Research suggests that a student needs at least 80 books in their home library to see significant gains in their academic achievement.

The STORY

In April, Vizient, a long-time U2L Partner for Cigarroa Elementary, collaborated with United to Learn to host “Culture Week,” which included a U2L Book Bash and a concert.

The employees at Vizient coordinated the purchase of ~400 books matched by Vizient, totaling 750 books donated in English and Spanish. Books featured diverse characters and multi-cultural stories.

During the Book Bash, Vizient employees also volunteered by reading to students and



facilitating a photo booth with props and masks. Photo booth images were transformed into customized bookmarks for the students.

Ultimately, every pre-k through sixth grade student was able to pick out at least one new book of their choice for their at home library.

Later within the same week, “The Filharmonica”, a Filipino acapella

group, performed for the entire student body in Cigarroa’s auditorium. Sixth grade leaders emceed the event and moderated questions for the band.

“Be authentically and truly yourself, figure out what you’re best at, then show the world.”

FILHARMONIC MEMBER



“ Today is definitely a ‘wow’ moment. Our kids might remember this day for the rest of their lives! Community partners can come into schools and make an astounding positive impact.”

DOUGLAS BURAK
Principal, Cigarroa Elementary

The IMPACT

750
books donated

576
children took home new books, music appreciation, and broadened horizons

40+
Vizient volunteers engaged with Cigarroa students and left as more informed advocates for Dallas schools!



Watch this amazing video!
Vizient created this reel to showcase Culture Week and the U2L Partnership.



Hero moment



The WHY

Supplemental resources from community partners, like book donations, wellness touchpoints, and special visitors, significantly contribute to a school's ability to thrive. Partners, in turn, benefit in many ways, including building relationships with students and sharing priceless moments!

The STORY

In November, Truist partnered with United to Learn to fulfill big dreams.

On Day One, Truist hosted a superhero-themed Book Bash at Bush Elementary with superstar guest Demarcus Lawrence of the Dallas Cowboys. Later that day, Demarcus visited AJ, a student at Charles Rice Elementary, and his grandmother. The family, who had experienced recent hardship, was provided 18 months rent and a holiday shopping bonus sponsored by Truist.

On the second day, Truist employees gathered to fill gift bags with books, glitter jars, toys, and snacks for every student at Cesar Chavez Elementary.

During the gathering, Truist CEO Bill Rogers announced a \$300,000 grant from Truist Financial Corporation to support United to Learn's Aspiring Teachers program!

To round out the day, Truist employees delivered the gift bags to Chavez and read to students in each classroom.



“ Truist has been a constant advocate and support for our students, families, and staff. They look for ways to serve us big and small. Being embraced by Truist has been amazing!”

KELLY BRENNION
Cesar Chavez Principal



“ I want you to continue to grow, love, and care for each other with your words. And just keep working hard at whatever you want to do. It will come to you.”

DEMARCUS LAWRENCE

speaking to children at Bush and Charles Rice elementary schools

The IMPACT

\$346,492

donated by Truist to support U2L's Aspiring Teachers program and Cesar Chavez partnership

1,240

students received a holiday gift of a book and other learning materials

75

Truist volunteers built relationships on two campuses strengthening their partnership!



Bush



Charles Rice

Watch heartwarming videos of Demarcus Lawrence visiting U2L Schools!



Caring moment



The WHY

Over 90% of students in U2L Schools are experiencing poverty. Students may have home instability and therefore lack access to a washer, dryer, and other hygiene materials. They may not have a clean uniform or a coat.

A care closet allows children a change of clothes, hygiene supplies and a simple opportunity to meet their personal needs throughout the day.



The STORY

In April, we hosted Community Campus Day at Joe May Elementary.

For their campus improvement project, school leadership requested a care closet to provide needed supplies for their students who were experiencing home instability at alarmingly rising rates.

Our dedicated U2L Liaisons Kelley Parel and Jessica Monsivais volunteered their time to spearhead and organize the care closet.

They led a group of volunteers to build shelves, then organize products such as hygiene supplies, uniforms, toothbrushes, deodorant, hairbrushes, undergarments, and more.

Kelley took the project a step further by engaging community

members to stock the shelves. She purchased additional uniforms, worked with a friend for a special backpack donation, and shared an Amazon Wish list with her network.

Every item on the wish list was purchased and delivered to Joe May!

As a special add-on, volunteers also planted flowers in front of the building to enhance the school entrance.



“ Care closets keep kids in school where they should be. My hope is that this space will provide the comfort and provisions a child might need to continue throughout the day.”

KELLEY PAREL
U2L Liaison, Joe May Elementary

The IMPACT

HUNDREDS

of supplies donated directly to Joe May

751

children have necessary provisions to feel comfortable and safe in school

55

Families experiencing home instability have access to reliable resources through their child's school



Memorable moments

FROM AUGUST THROUGH JUNE, we had so much to commemorate and celebrate! FEEL THE MOMENTUM!



LEARNING LAUNCH DELIVERIES and Campus "Lift-offs" brightens the first few weeks of school with teacher-requested supplies and first-ever campus projects like spirit signs, DJs, balloons, and even a petting zoo!



U2L'S FIRST SEPTEMBER SUPERCHARGE Conference brings together school leaders and liaisons from the U2L network of then-50 schools.

SEPT 2022

AUGUST 2022

AUGUST 2022



TY WARNER donates over 1,130 "Beanie Boos" to Anne Frank and Nathan Adams students. U2L brings in yoga teacher Stefanie Tovar to teach "Deep Belly Breathing" as part of our SEL programming.

SEPT 2022



WATCH STORIES HERE!



U2L RECEIVES A \$50K GRANT from the TEGNA Foundation that give us news coverage at WFAA for the month of September (25 published stories) and engages WFAA employees to volunteer via book donations and school visits. **THE MEDIA/ADVOCACY VALUE TOTALED \$295,103**



TRUIST and Demarcus Lawrence visit U2L Schools!
SEE FEATURE ON P.6!



BELIEVE, EMBRACE, UNITE campaign event featuring Dallas ISD Superintendent, Dr. Stephanie Elizalde announces the amazing fundraising achievement of raising more than \$9MM to support the students of Dallas.



ASPIRING TEACHERS program supports **95 tutors** from high school P-Tech and Dallas College partnerships!
SEE P.13!

NOV 2022

NOV 2022



SPRINKLES OF SEL podcast publishes inaugural season with **10 EPISODES AND 1002 DOWNLOADS** broadcasting wellness, neuroscience, and healthy habits for educators.

JUNE 2023

APR 2023

MAY 2023

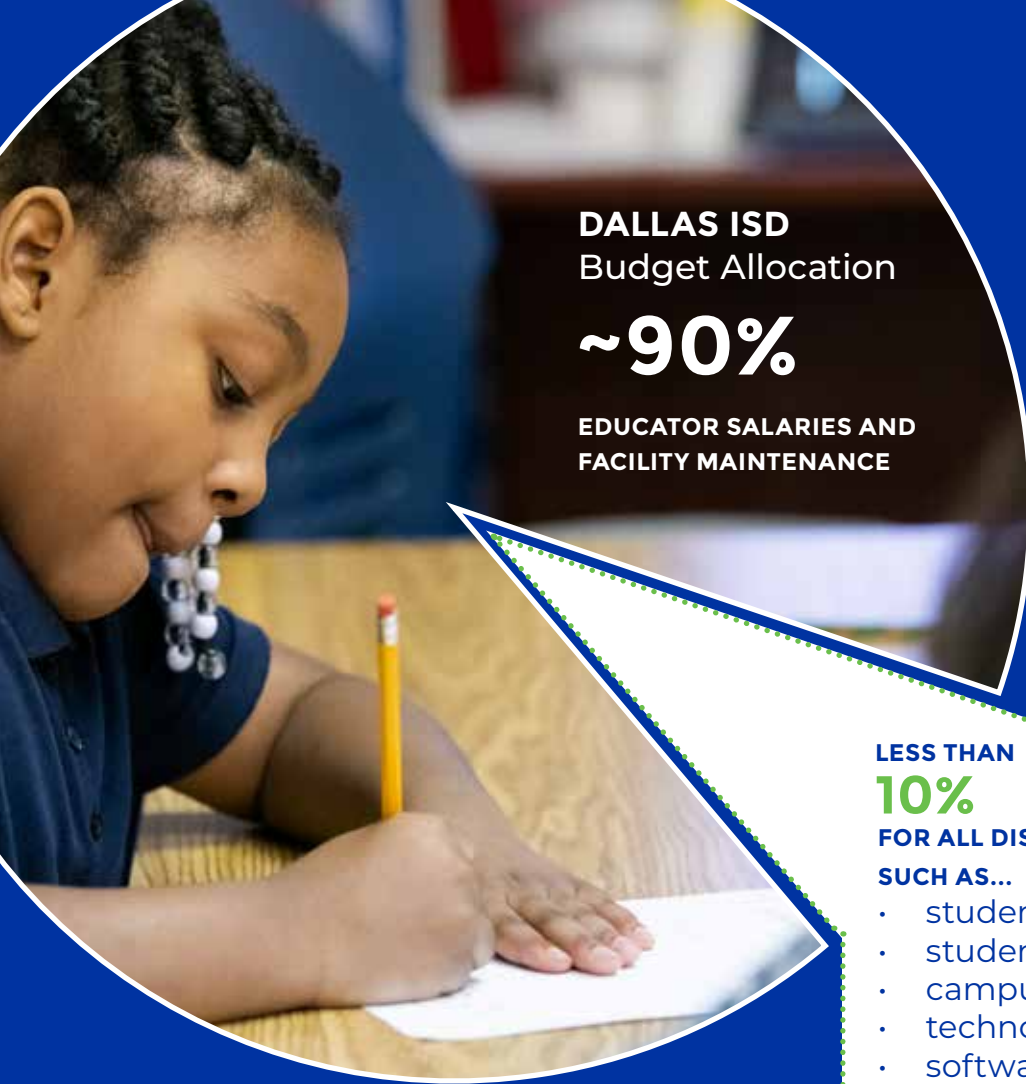
JAN, MARCH, & APRIL 2023



COMMUNITY CAMPUS DAY events fill the spring with 85 campus projects that bring volunteers into our schools to create joyful and inspirational learning environments!
SEE FEATURES ON P.8 & 15.



U2L TEAM INVITES "TEAM 24" to join our network for FY24, expanding our U2L Schools to 75!



DALLAS ISD
Budget Allocation

~90%

**EDUCATOR SALARIES AND
FACILITY MAINTENANCE**

THE OPPORTUNITY GAP

LESS THAN

10%

**FOR ALL DISCRETIONARY FUNDING
SUCH AS...**

- student programming
- student supplies
- campus enhancements
- technology
- software
- teacher training



36,000

STUDENTS



55%

are emergent
bilingual learners
(2.5x higher than county)



3,400

EDUCATORS



90%

qualify for FREE OR
REDUCED LUNCH
(24% higher than county)



75

U2L SCHOOLS

With plans to expand to all Title I
elementary schools in Dallas ISD
in the next two years



92%

identify as students
of color:

70% Hispanic | 22% Black | 8% Other

We step in where public dollars stop

U2L PROVIDES TAILORED AND REQUESTED SUPPORT where educators and students need it most. Working with our programs team, educators are able to select from a wide range of options that help fulfill their campus objectives. From curated classroom materials and campus enhancements to team building workshops and climate and culture boosters.

with investments



95
"ASPIRING TEACHER"
TUTORS

16
CAMPUSES

5,000
HOURS OF
TUTORING

“ U2L Tutors have made a significant and positive academic impact on my campus.”

100%
DALLAS ISD LEADERS
FY23 Spring Survey

that build strong culture

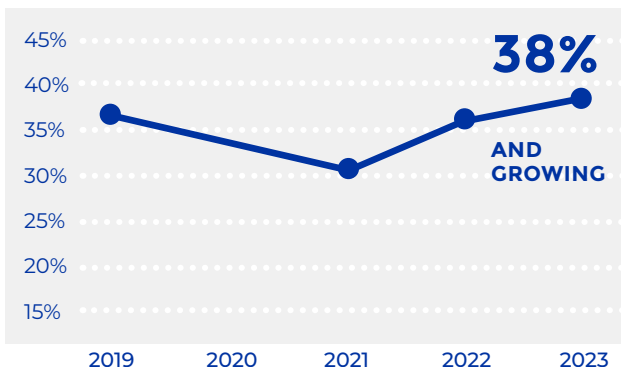
**U2L SCHOOLS SHOW
TOP QUINTILE
RANKINGS
IN CULTURE & CLIMATE
SURVEY**
outpacing District Peers

- College-Going Culture
- Teacher-Teacher Trust
- Beliefs and Priorities
- Teacher-Principal Trust
- Culture of Feedback & Support
- Positive Culture and Environment

95%
OF DALLAS ISD
LEADERS AGREE THAT
U2L HELPED THEM
ACHIEVE CAMPUS
GOALS

FY23 Spring Survey

and drive student achievement



*Texas Education Agency ("TEA") Third Grade Reading STAAR Results 2019-2023

to sustain thriving campuses.

- **U2L SCHOOLS** have steadily experienced gains surpassing pre-pandemic achievement levels.
- **U2L SCHOOLS** continue to show narrowed gaps in outcomes for students of color.

Learning Launch

IN THE FALL OF 2022, U2L's back-to-school program Learning Launch expanded to encompass school readiness projects, along with signature teacher-requested supplies. Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor **Atmos Energy** and co-chairs **Lindsay Billingsley, Margaret Hirsch, Jenny Staubach, Sarah Weinberg, and Dawn Zierk** for their work rallying the community and enlisting a host committee of 40 Dallas education champions.

BY THE NUMBERS

\$327,000

Raised for teacher-requested supplies and resources

7,320

instructional tools including:

2,220

books & magazines

1,260

learning centers

200

social and emotional learning resources

2,360

items to build a positive Culture & Climate

50

Campus "Lift-Offs" for the first days of school including first-ever U2L school spirit signs, DJs on the first day of school, photo booths, balloons, stocked teachers lounges, and more!

INSPIRING RESPONSE

from investors like you who made this possible!



Community Campus Day

IN THE WINTER AND SPRING OF 2023, CCD SPANNED FOUR MAJOR PROJECT DAYS on Fridays and Saturdays bringing amazing energy, community volunteers, and inspirational impact to 85+ projects at 50+ campuses. We were so pleased to hear from students and educators about the positive difference you made to Dallas ISD learning environments. Thank you **Ashlee and Chris Kleinert** for chairing this effort!



BY THE NUMBERS

\$430,000

Total Investment in 50 Dallas ISD campuses including...

\$252,000

material contributions

\$100,000

in-kind and design contributions

\$78,000

volunteer time value

85

Campus Projects including:

- Outdoor classrooms & playgrounds
- STEM Labs
- Mindfulness spaces
- Student incentive stores
- Teacher lounges
- School Clinics

1,300+

volunteers mobilized

DREAM BIG

projects included a new playground for Charles Rice, a commemorative outdoor classroom for Chavez, and high school students going to back to their elementary schools to work with younger students!

47

corporate and individual sponsors!



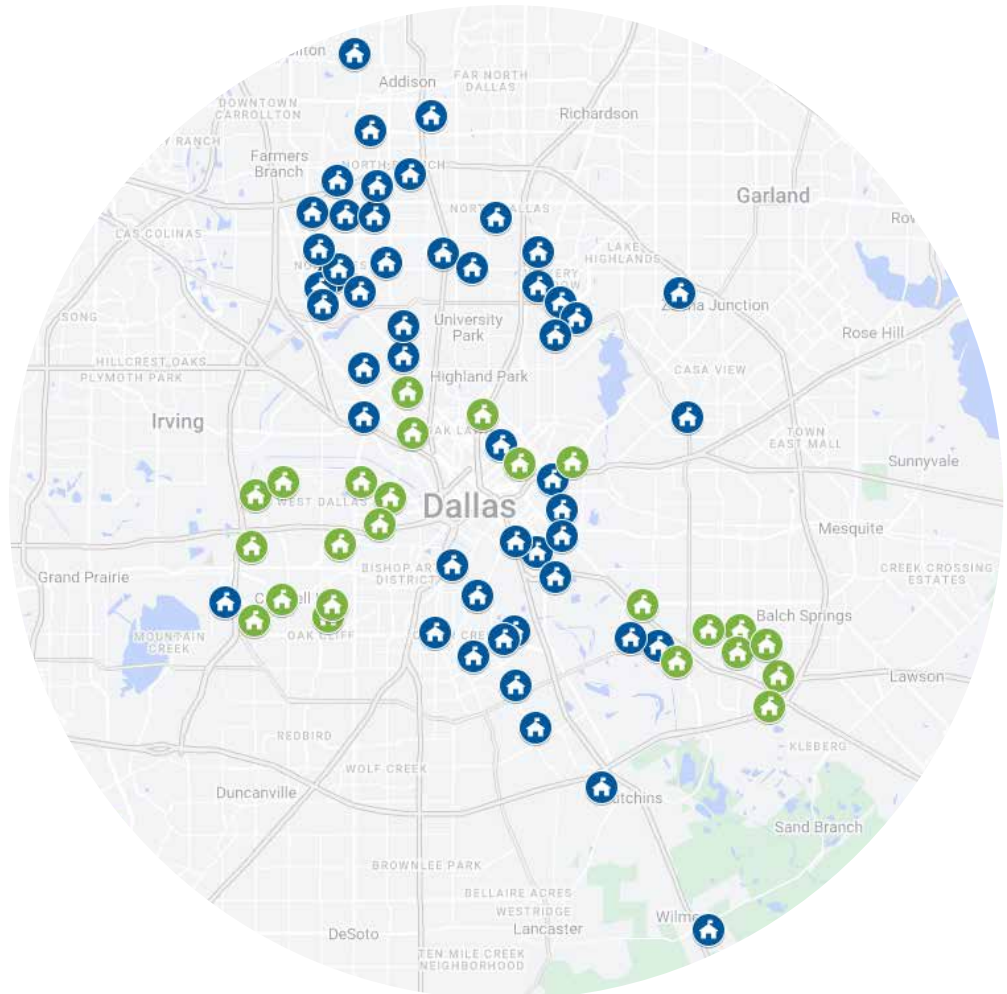
50 to 75 U2L Schools

REPRESENTING ABOUT ONE-HALF OF DALLAS ISD TITLE I ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

IN MAY OF 2023, the U2L Team invited an additional 24 Schools to join our network. This new cohort, "Team 24," was decided by working closely with school leadership and completing feeder patterns. Within the initiatives of the **Fueling Potential Campaign**, U2L plans to partner with all Dallas ISD Title I Elementary Schools by 2026.

FY 2023 SCHOOLS

Anne Frank
 Arlington Park
 Arthur Kramer
 Cedar Crest
 Cesar Chavez
 Chapel Hill
 Charles Rice Learning Center
 Dan D. Rogers
 David G. Burnet
 Eddie Bernice Johnson
 Elisha M. Pease
 Everette Lee DeGolyer
 F.P. Cailet
 Frederick Douglass
 George H.W. Bush
 George W. Truett
 Harrell Budd
 Harry C. Withers
 Marcus Leadership Academy
 Highland Meadows
 H.S. Thompson
 J.P. Starks
 Jack Lowe, Sr.
 Jerry R. Junkins
 Jill Stone
 J.N. Ervin
 John J. Pershing
 John Neely Bryan
 Jose "Joe" May
 Joseph J. Rhoads
 Julian T. Saldivar
 K. B. Polk
 L.L. Hotchkiss
 Lee A. McShan Jr.
 Leonides G. Cigarroa
 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
 N.W. Harlee Early
 Childhood Center
 Nancy J. Cochran
 Nathan Adams
 Obadiah Knight
 Oran M. Roberts
 Paul L. Dunbar
 Preston Hollow
 Rufus C. Burluson
 Stephen C. Foster
 Studie Williams
 Tom C. Gooch
 Walnut Hill
 William B. Miller
 Wilmer-Hutchins



TEAM 24 SCHOOLS, NOTED IN GREEN, OFFICIALLY ADDED IN FY24.

Arcadia Park
 Arturo Salazar
 B. H. Macon
 Ben Milam
 C. F. Carr
 Celestino Mauricio Soto Jr.
 Eladio R. Martinez Learning Center
 Esperanza "Hope" Medrano
 Gabe P. Allen
 Gilbert Cuellar Sr.
 Henry B. Gonzalez Personalized Learning Academy

Ignacio Zaragoza
 Jesus Moroles Expressive Arts Vanguard
 Julius Dorsey Leadership Academy
 Leila P. Cowart
 Lorenzo De Zavala
 Maple Lawn
 Mary McLeod Bethune
 Mt. Auburn
 Nancy Moseley
 Richard Lagow
 Stevens Park
 W. A. Blair
 William M Anderson

powered by people!

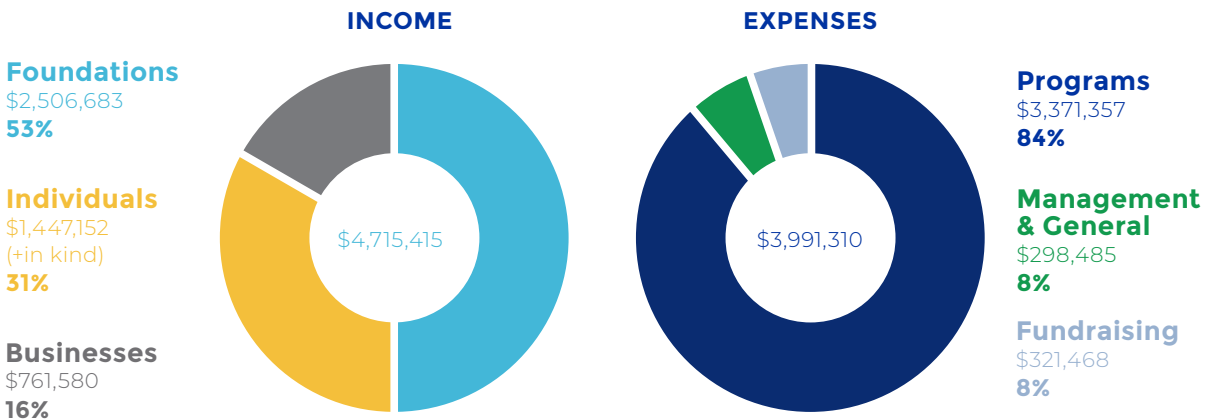
VOLUNTEERS REPORT IMPACTFUL EXPERIENCES!



2,400
TOTAL VOLUNTEERS

- 96%** would recommend future opportunities to friends
- 90%** believed programs were well thought out and accessible
- 96%** learned more about Dallas ISD
- 95%** felt their volunteer experience was impactful

U2L TEAM MAKES EVERY \$1 COUNT!



\$76,756
INVESTED PER CAMPUS

\$153
INVESTED PER STUDENT

84%
PROGRAMS RATIO

FY2023 Audit

Grateful moment



INDIVIDUALS

Lilly Albritton and Chuck Briant
Lena Alley
Christine Allison
Lori and Jon Altschuler
Heather and Ray Balestri
Cristina Barbosa and
Michael Young
Wendy Bateman
Carrie and Steven Becker
Pam and John Beckert
Flauren and Jason Bender
John and Meredith Bentley
Lindsay and Dave Beran
Nancy Best
Lindsay and George Billingsley
Jess Bass Bolander
Jordan and Marty Brainerd
Elizabeth Brown
Rebecca Bruder
Julie and Eric Clark
Julie and Claude Connelly
Christian Corts
Kathy Crow
Cammy and Holmes Davis
Elizabeth and Marty Dekker
Renza and Alejandro Diaz
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 West Plano Diabetes and Endocrine Center
 WFAA ABC News
 Whole Kids Foundation
 YMSL Coppell
 YMSL Highland Park
 YMSL Park Cities
 Zierk Family Foundation

List represents donation of \$500 or more in fiscal year, July 2022-June 2023

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Community Volunteer

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HPUMC

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Strategic Initiatives
The Dallas Foundation

“The future of Dallas lives within the halls and walls of Dallas ISD.”



DR. SHERYL COLLINS
Chief Programs Officer
United to Learn

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Director of Social Emotional Learning

Emily Bywaters
Communications Director

Raeann Cain
HR & Office Manager

Rachel Chewakin
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