



EDUCATION
FOUNDATION
of Lake County

IMPACT REPORT

2025-2026

WWW.EDFOUNDATIONLAKE.COM

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For nearly 40 years, the Education Foundation of Lake County has brought the community together in support of Lake County Schools. As the connection between businesses, residents, and public education, we work to enrich learning experiences, honor educators, fund creative programs, and ensure students have the support they need to succeed. The 2025-2026 school year included funding unique school projects like squid dissections, hosting reading workshops for families, recognizing more than 150 educators, sending robotics teams to national competitions, and so much more. Our schools are at the heart of a strong community, and every investment in education helps create opportunities for future generations. Together, we can continue making a lasting impact for students, teachers, and schools across Lake County.



ELIZABETH M. JOHNSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

-Dr. Elizabeth Johnson

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & IMPACT

The Education Foundation of Lake County's impact is made possible through strong community partnerships. This year, we worked alongside more than 225 business partners and community organizations, all united in support of local students and educators.

Spotlight: Round Up for Education

In partnership with the Lake County Tax Collector's Office, the "Round Up Your Transaction" program allows customers to round up their transactions to the nearest dollar, with 100% of proceeds supporting our mission.

Previously raising over \$20,000 for another local non-profit, the program continues to demonstrate how small contributions can create meaningful change. As the current beneficiary, funds raised now support teacher grants, student scholarships, and essential classroom resources—right here in Lake County!

Thank You to Our Partners

We are grateful to our partners and community members whose support helps us remove barriers to learning and create opportunities for every student to succeed.

LAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS SNAPSHOT

5,676

FACULTY & STAFF

96%

GRADUATION RATE

41,250

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

A DISTRICT
GRADE
PER DOE

51
SCHOOLS



FOUNDATION INVESTED INITIATIVES

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION
EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
TEACHER RESOURCES
...AND MORE!



CORE TOOLS
for SCHOOLS
SUMMER SUPPLY DRIVE



IMPACT IN ACTION

ENHANCING THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE THROUGH ESSENTIAL RESOURCES

- **\$86,300 Invested in Teacher Impact Grants:** Funded classroom grants reaching 9,885 students, with 100% of participating teachers reporting positive student outcomes.
- **\$147,095 in Free School Supplies:** Facilitated 949 teacher visits to Apple-Mart, putting essential instructional materials directly into classrooms.
- **150 Educators Honored:** Celebrated local teaching excellence and dedication through the InspirED by Excellence recognition program.

GUIDING STUDENTS TOWARD LIFELONG SUCCESS

- **\$256,800 Total Scholarship Investment:** 100% of these funds directly support local students pursuing higher education, empowering 82 total students to achieve their academic goals.
- **\$182,700 for TSIC Graduates:** Awarding 2-year post-secondary plans to 29 Take Stock in Children (TSIC) Class of 2026 graduates.
- **\$74,100 in Direct Student Awards:** Providing direct scholarship support to 53 local students.
- **1,096+ Mentoring Hours:** Connected students with dedicated community volunteers to provide personalized guidance and support.
- **Community Literacy Partnership:** Partnered with the UF Lastinger Center to host the New Worlds Reading Program for local families and community members.

FUELING WORKFORCE READINESS & CAREER PATHWAYS

- **\$60,105 Invested in CTE Programs:** Allocated Career & Technical Education funding to advance hands-on learning across agriculture, robotics, drone technology, and culinary arts.
- **\$33,750 Health Science Grant:** Leveraged support from the Frederick A. DeLuca Career Academy Grant to fund high-demand health science credential programs.
- **600+ Students Prepared:** Engaged over 600 students in career and college readiness workshops to equip them for life after graduation.

TOTAL
EDUCATIONAL
IMPACT FOR
2025-2026

\$1,885,061

YOUR IMPACT



- Direct Teacher Support
- Direct Student Support
- Unrestricted Special Projects
- Employee Appreciation
- Scholarships & Mentoring



Supporting Lake County Schools is the core of our mission. Every donation you make directly benefits students and teachers in our public school district. Our Board of Directors and staff members are all personal donors who are committed to our cause.



FOUNDATION EVENTS

Annual events play a significant role in advancing the Foundation's objectives. With the support of corporate partnerships, business owners, and dedicated donors, these events thrive and in turn we elevate our mission. There are various opportunities available, from volunteering to sponsorship, and we are eager to engage you in them.

Stepping Out For Education

Scott A. Strong Memorial Golf Tournament

Robotics Scrimmage

A Celebration InspirED by Excellence

featuring LCS recognition for Teacher of the Year,
Rookie Teacher of the Year & School-Related Employee of the Year

Scott A. Strong Clay Shoot

Ladies Fore Education

Volunteer Celebration

Scholars & Supporters Breakfast

Lasting Legacy Celebration

featuring LCS recognition for retirees

Core Tools for Schools Summer Supply Drive



MEET THE TEAM

FOUNDATION STAFF

Dr. Elizabeth M. Johnson	<i>Executive Director</i>
Mandy Cooke	<i>Take Stock in Children</i>
Amber Di Giorgi	<i>Donor Development Specialist</i>
Kacey Edmondson	<i>Donor Development Specialist</i>
Jennifer Grinnell	<i>Finance and Grant Specialist</i>
Jennifer Julian	<i>Take Stock in Children</i>

2025-2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Matt Hackler	<i>Edgewater Family Wealth</i>	2020
Vice President	Kasey Hobbs	<i>United Southern Bank</i>	2021
Secretary	Cindi Falanga	<i>Seacoast Bank</i>	2024
Treasurer	Rich Billings	<i>Citizens First Bank, ret.</i>	2017
Attorney to the Board	Kevin Stone	<i>Stone & Gerken, PA</i>	2017
Executive Advisor	Mike DeGraw	<i>DeGraw Properties, LLC</i>	2012
Executive Advisor	Loren Vasquez	<i>Skates Uhrk Vasquez Law</i>	2022
Past President	Lori Baker	<i>Premier Sotheby's International Realty</i>	2019
Jimmy Adams		<i>Electric Services Inc.</i>	2022
Rosanne Brandeburg		<i>Insight Credit Union</i>	1999
Erika Corley		<i>Cecil Clark Chevrolet</i>	2025
Doris Jackson-Shazier		<i>Shazier Coaching and Consulting, LLC</i>	2025
Shelley Lewis		<i>AdventHealth Minneola</i>	2026
Joe MacLaren		<i>Addition Financial</i>	2018
Don Marx		<i>Financial Services, ret.</i>	2021
Meeghan Moldof		<i>Moldof Law P.A.</i>	2024
Danielle Parker		<i>James Co. Builders</i>	2026
Kristy Parsons		<i>Guild Mortgage</i>	2014
Marc Robertz-Schwartz		<i>HHTV, LLC</i>	2022
Bobby Rhodes		<i>Eco Construction</i>	2017
Miranda Starling		<i>Lake County Tax Collector</i>	2025
Debbie Thomas		<i>Welbro Building Corporation</i>	2026
B. E. Thompson		<i>LifeStream Behavioral Center</i>	2012
David Wallace		<i>PBK Architects</i>	2025
Cari Warnock		<i>CBW K12 Advisors</i>	2025
Lee Woods		<i>Lee Woods Construction</i>	2020
Ex Officio	Diane Kornegay	<i>Lake County School Superintendent</i>	2017
Ex Officio	Dr. Stephanie Luke	<i>Lake County School Board</i>	2025
Ex Officio	Elisabeth Emery	<i>Lake County Education Association</i>	2025



YOU

*have the power to positively impact
students & teachers in Lake County!*



**EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**
of Lake County



GET
CONNECTED

352.326.1265



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