



The Center for Development and Learning Announces W. K. Kellogg Foundation Grant to Support K-3 Literacy Summer Program

Metairie, July 14, 2020 – The Center for Development and Learning (CDL) has launched a program to help children in Grades K-3 increase their language and literacy proficiency and be better prepared to begin the next school year. The participating parents will grow in their ability and confidence as their children’s literacy educator as well.

When schools closed on March 13, students lost a total of 260 hours of instruction. When added to the two months, on average, of reading skills lost through “summer learning loss,” Louisiana’s students will be further behind their peers.

Only 25% of Louisiana students currently demonstrate reading proficiency in 4th grade. The National Institutes of Health has shown that this disproportionately harms students of color. Reading proficiency by third grade is also the most important predictor of high school graduation. One in six children who are not reading proficiently in third grade do not graduate from high school on time, a rate four times greater than that for proficient readers (The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2012).

The summer months will be a critical time for parents to work with their children to ensure they are prepared to enter the next grade with the foundational skills needed to be successful. To do that, parents need high-quality instructional support that they can digest and implement.

Through this program, CDL will provide parents and guardians across Louisiana with interactive training, resources, and support to ensure their K-3 children are not left behind during this public health crisis.

The program is funded by a \$15,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan. “The Kellogg Foundation has been a wonderful partner to CDL, and is

committed to ensuring the children of New Orleans have quality learning experiences,” said CDL President and CEO Dr. John E. Wyble. “There has never been a more critical time for this investment in the educational future of our children.”

CDL's summer program includes:

- A free literacy assessment with guidance from our Literacy Specialist to create your personal plan of action.
- Grade-specific checklists to guide you in the skills your children should master before next school year.
- Videos, lesson plans and activities to make the instruction easy and fun.
- Virtual Q&A sessions on a monthly basis to answer questions, discuss trends or challenges we are seeing, and provide more support as you work through your action plan.
- End-of-summer workshop for parents and students to provide in-person training with grade specific break out sessions (pending public health guidelines).

Parents can sign up at www.cdl.org/summer-program.

About the Center for Development and Learning:

Founded in 1992, the Center for Development and Learning's mission is to improve the life chances of all children by increasing school success. CDL's work is focused on closing the achievement gap by increasing teacher effectiveness. Visit CDL's website www.cdl.org for more information.

About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation:

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal innovator and entrepreneur Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.

The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Michigan, and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special attention is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. WKKF priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkf.org.

