

The Jacksonville Journey

The Jacksonville Journey was the City's response in 2008 to a worsening and seemingly intractable violent crime problem. It grew out of an awareness that police enforcement alone was not sufficient; but that a strategic three-prong approach involving prevention, intervention and enforcement was required. While criminal enforcement fell primarily to the Sheriff's Office and the State Attorney, intervention and prevention initiatives were the primary focus of the Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee. In 2015, under the leadership of Mayor Lenny Curry, increased funding for intervention and prevention was provided and the Jax Journey Ordinance was passed, mandating greater focus on factors that lead to crime and supporting initiatives to keep children safe and productive and assist juvenile delinquents and ex-offenders become responsible citizens.

The Jax Journey Oversight Committee has been expressly tasked with establishing measurable performance expectations related to crime prevention for every initiative it undertakes and to be innovative in establishing short and long term plans to achieve the goals of the City. Thus, the Jax Journey has engaged in a bold, outcome driven, performance based approach to the programs it funds with the ultimate goal of turning the tide of crime in Jacksonville and helping our city become a safer place to live.

The Jax Journey is engaged in a number of intervention programs involving juvenile justice, ex-offender employment and workforce development and prevention/intervention programs involving teens. The Journey has also undertaken several innovative special projects which seek to achieve long term goals to eliminate factors that contribute to crime and establish the framework for healthy and productive communities and citizens. Before any project or program is undertaken, it is vetted to assure it is focused and effective in reducing or eliminating crime; that measurable outcomes exist so it may be assessed in terms of its impact on crime; and that the work is cost effective. Each program and project is closely monitored and data assessed to determine whether it is accomplishing these objectives.

Long term programs such as the innovative Jax SAILS After School and Summer School initiative have been carefully designed by education experts to create an attractive, voluntary out of school experience with embedded critical learning skills that improve literacy and provide the tools for success in school and life. Key measurables of the program's impact include whether participants more regularly attend school, maintain good conduct, avoid juvenile justice interventions and ultimately, are more proficient in reading and school progress than their peers who do not receive comparable support.

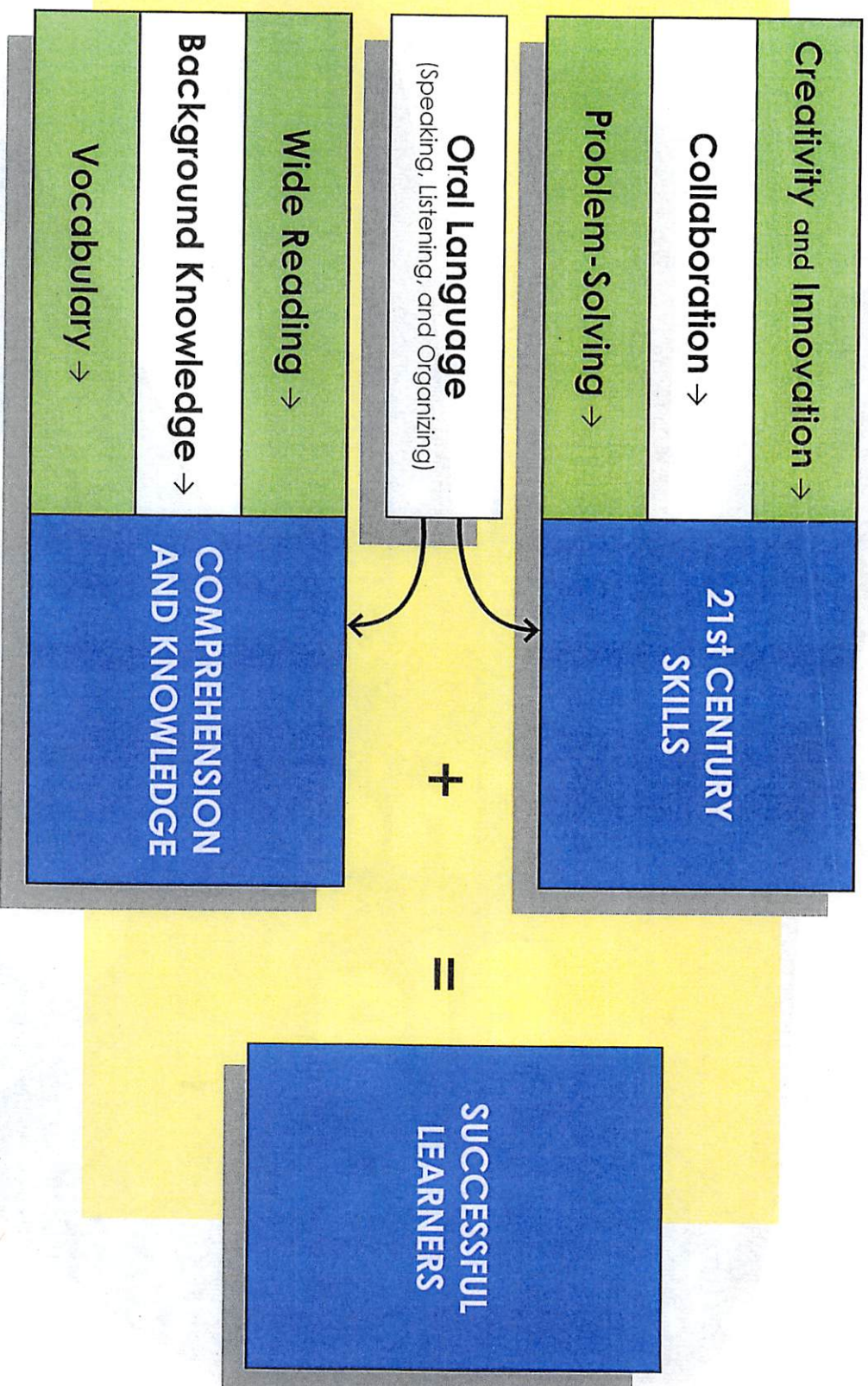
The focus on reading and literacy skills arises from the well established correlation between crime and reading proficiency. See, e.g., Do Prisons Use Third Grade Reading Scores to Predict ... Prison Beds?, ReadingPartners.org (10/7/2013); *An Urban Myth that Should be True*, The Atlantic (7/22/2012). See, also, Calculating the

Cost of Reading Failure, Education-Consumers.org (2014); *Early Warning Confirmed*, Annie E. Casey Foundation, aecf.org (2013). The data is overwhelming that if children have not learned to read by the third grade, they are severely handicapped in their ability to read to learn and have a high probability of ending up in jail and/or dependency.

For decades, some areas of our community have suffered unacceptable levels of violent crime, poverty and poor school performance. Along with this has been chronically low reading proficiency, with more than half of our poorest students being unable to effectively read. Many do not graduate and few have the 21st century skills to obtain modern, high paying jobs. And so the cycle perpetuates itself, generation after generation.

Under Mayor Curry's leadership, the Jax Journey is tasked to be a change agent to take bold, innovative steps to stop the dysfunctional cycle that has fueled the City's crime. Thus, the traditional, custodial care after school program that yields no measurable impact on crime is being revamped. As always, a safe and healthy after-school environment will be maintained, but in addition, after-school will include a standards based literacy program that helps children become proficient readers. The new approach requires investment by the schools, parents and children and a greater investment by Jax Journey. For now, with a zero-sum budget, it means fewer kids can be served because the cost for each is greater; but the return on that investment will be children reaching their potential and, with a little time, economic improvement and major crime reduction.

A Focus on Comprehension and 21st Century Skills*



* Informed by the following sources:

National Early Literacy Panel. (2008). Developing early literacy: Report of the National Early Literacy Panel. Washington, DC: National Institute for Literacy.

Neuman, S.B. (2006). The knowledge gap: Implications for early education. Handbook of Early Literacy Research, Volume 2 (Edited by D.K. Dickinson and S. B. Neuman). New York: The Guilford Press.

Partnership for 21st Century Learning. www.p21.org

Afterschool and Summer Learning





PROGRAMS

AREAS OF FOCUS: 32202, 32205, 32206,
32208, 32209, 32210, 32211, 32218,
32244, 32254



PREVENTION \$3,671,502

PREVENTION SPECIAL PROJECTS

Early Learning Coalition (ELC)	\$988,710
JFRD Explorers Apprenticeship Program	\$507,500
Library Enhanced Access Program (LEAP)	\$150,000
Rec N' Roll	\$266,210
	\$65,000

TEEN PROGRAMMING

Boys & Girls Club	\$791,588
Don't Miss A Beat	\$70,000
Fresh Ministries	\$89,340
Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc	\$114,040
Groundwork Jacksonville	\$79,818
Jacksonville Zoological Society - WILD Stewards	\$90,170
KIPP Jacksonville	\$115,480
Police Athletic League - Teen Leadership	\$75,000
Wayman Community Development	\$25,665
YMCA of Florida's First Coast	\$100,000
	\$60,585

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (AGE 16 - 24)

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ)	\$445,680
Goodwill Industries of North Florida	\$266,972
NEFL Community Action Agency	\$81,833
West Jacksonville Restoration Center	\$51,875
	\$85,000

SUMMER CAMP

\$978,404

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

\$467,100

INTERVENTION \$1,494,970

INTERVENTION SPECIAL PROJECTS

1,000 IN 1,000 (Family Foundations)	\$897,954
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)	\$254,000
Out-of-School Suspension (ATOSS)	\$399,023
	\$244,931

JUVENILE JUSTICE INTERVENTION

Evening Reporting Center	\$597,016
(St. Paul Missionary Church)	\$143,242
Expungement Juvenile Records	\$5,000
Juvenile Justice Intervention	\$321,600
(Daniel Kids Foundation)	
Neighborhood Accountability Board (NAB)	\$55,000
Turning Point: Re-thinking Violence	\$31,000
Twin Oaks Aftercare Juvenile Intervention	\$41,174

EX-OFFENDER \$568,201

Clara White Mission (CWM)	\$115,000
Operation New Hope (ONH)	\$138,201
Prisoner of Christ (POC)	\$315,000

PARTNERSHIP \$2,889,620

U.S. DOJ Safe & Thriving Communities Grant	\$1,000,000
CareSource of Northeast Florida	\$500,000
COJ Sheriff's Special Law Enforcement Trust	\$49,620
- Small Grants	
State of Florida Criminal Justice	
Reinvestment Grant	\$1,340,000

FOR JAXJOURNEY PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS
PLEASE VISIT WWW.COJ.NET/JAXJOURNEY

THE SOLUTION-ORIENTED STUDENT LEADERS
IN THE I'M A STAR FOUNDATION Present...



2019 LEADER to LEADER SUMMIT

MARCH 30

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

RSVP: Info@imastarfoundation.org

**My Peers and
I are Working To
Make A POSITIVE
Difference**

**Don't Miss The Opportunity To COLLABORATE
With America's Next Generation of Leaders**

**National, State and Local Leaders
Meet For 3 Unforgettable Hours With
Amazing Student Leaders To Develop
SOLUTIONS To Problems That
Negatively Impact America's KIDS**

**STANTON COLLEGE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL
1149 WEST 13TH STREET - JACKSONVILLE, FL
LUNCH INCLUDED**



I'M A STAR FOUNDATION, INC.

The I'm A Star Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that provides leadership, service-learning and wrap-around services for students and teaches them that the essence of leadership is service to mankind. I'm A Star's mission is to empower students to *believe* that they are solution-oriented **STARS**: **S**mart **T**alented **A**nd **R**esilient **S**tudents who are capable of changing the world! All of the Foundation's leadership activities are created, directed and implemented by students ages 12-18.

I'm A Star focuses on three areas:

- (1). **STUDENTS HOMELESSNESS**: Our students have led the charge in raising awareness and funds for homeless students in Duval County Public Schools. Since 2013 the youths have donated \$126,000 to the school district to assist homeless students and donated nearly 50 scholarships to homeless students.
- (2). **HEALTHY LIVING**: Our students have been fixated on helping Jacksonville to become one of America's healthiest cities. Their efforts resulted in the 14th U. S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy visiting Jacksonville to help our students introduce their youth-led childhood obesity plan "Fit Over Fat USA" and hosting annual "Let's Move Jacksonville" events resulting in showing thousands of participants to eat healthy and get physically active.
- (3). **STUDENT WRAP-AROUND SERVICES**: I'm A Star provides mentoring, parenting and leadership services to students enrolled in the school system's Bridge To Success Program, GEAR UP Program and Kids Hope Alliance's Middle and High School Afterschool program.

