



Increase 3rd grade
reading proficiency

by **25%**

by 2026



Increase youth aged
16–24 engaged in
education and employment
opportunities by

38% by 2026

Education Action Plan

MIGHTY GOALS

1. Increase 3rd grade reading proficiency by 25% by 2026
2. Increase youth aged 16-24 engaged in education and employment opportunities by 38% by 2026

SHORT TERM GOALS

Early Education and Reading

Build and strengthen literacy capacity of practitioners in early learning environments by 2022.

Parent and Family Support

Increase online learning and socio-emotional supportive services for parents, caregivers, and teachers by 2022.

Overlap with Health and Workforce

Increase knowledge and access to basic family needs and supportive services by 2022 through grant funding and school-based hubs or community schools model.

LONG TERM GOALS

Early Education and Reading

Leverage support resources to increase 3rd grade reading proficiency rates from 48% to 60% by 2026.

Parent and Family Support

Increase access to family resources by partnering with schools to increase knowledge and access to services by 2026.

Overlap with Health and Workforce

Increase knowledge and resources to families and education staff to support student engagement in school and life by 2026.

Education Action Plan

STRATEGIES

Advocacy and Public Policy

- ↑ Increase teacher pay
- ↑ Create higher quality access for all with additional funding for underfunded, underperforming and under-resourced schools
- Use state funding to support the community schools model
- Make all-day kindergarten and preschool more accessible

Prioritized Communities

- Title I Schools in West Valley and South Phoenix

Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion

- Ensure the education workforce (teachers, school board, administrators) reflects the diversity of the population
 - 46% of preschool through 12th grade students are Latino, but only 13% of administrators and school board and 16% of the teaching workforce are Latino

VSUW's Role

- Grant-making with nonprofit, school organizations and community providers that specialize in specific supportive services that keep vulnerable students from drifting too far away from achievement
- Convening and serving as a backbone organization around strategic reading initiatives
- Partner with corporate partners and donors to leverage funds to bridge Digital Divides

Be a **FORCE** for

Mighty Change WITH US

**Even small actions add up to make a big difference.
Here are a few ways to get involved now.**

GET READING

- ✓ *"Map the Meal Gap"* Interactive Study by Feeding America
 - [Map](#)
 - [Research Study](#)
- ✓ *"Hunger into Health"* by Erik Talkin
- ✓ *"Evicted"* by Matthew Desmond
- ✓ *"The Color of Law"* by Richard Rothstein
- ✓ *"Hand to Mouth: Living in Bootstrap America"* by Linda Tirado

GET DOING

- ✓ [Volunteer at a COVID-19 Vaccination Site](#)
- ✓ [Donate business attire to St. Joseph the Worker](#)
- ✓ [Participate in a local ReadOn Community](#)
- ✓ [Ask Arizona legislators to increase the Charitable Tax Deduction by supporting HB2113](#)
- ✓ [Help at a food bank](#)

MC2026

Valley of the Sun
United Way

