

Deans for Impact 



2023 REPORT

**Building a Movement
for a Diverse and
Well-Prepared
Educator Workforce**



A SNAPSHOT OF OUR 2023 IMPACT:

9,000+

current and aspiring educators served through instructional programming and tools and resources

139

deans and executive leaders engaged in our Impact Academy leadership network

41

teacher-preparation programs and school districts supported

8

state governing bodies advised

8

national coalitions and partnerships

What does it mean to be an educator? This year, that question has been pushed to the fore as AI has rapidly spread within classrooms and important efforts to reimagine how adults are deployed within schools have sparked new conversations.

While the role of educators is undoubtedly evolving, what will remain true is the deeply human nature of teaching and learning. Teachers must foster spaces of belonging and connection that support every student. And they must have a nuanced understanding of the complexities of the human mind to guide informed instructional choices - whether with AI, a smartboard, or paper and pencil.

This is the undercurrent of our work at DFI. As communities grapple with technological advancements and reinvent ways of working, we support them to prepare teachers who can anchor their success in the timeless ability to honor and nurture the limitless potential, brilliance, and full humanity of each child. We ensure that teachers, and those that prepare them, root every critical instructional decision in scientifically-informed, equitable practices that consistently produce evidence of the meaningful impact we want to be true for all students.

As we reflect on the year, we are deeply grateful for the partners working alongside us to advance our mission. Read on to learn how our impact in 2023 is scaling progress for students in communities across the country.

In partnership,

Valerie Sakimura
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DEANS FOR IMPACT

Your 100% tax-deductible donation will ensure that DFI is positioned to scale our impact in the communities where we work.

Donate Today! →

We're reimagining pathways into teaching to diversify and strengthen the teacher workforce

1,800+

tutors, including aspiring teachers, mobilized through the 28 programs in our Aspiring Teachers as Tutors Network

139

deans and executive leaders in our leadership network working across **39 states** to build accessible, high-quality pathways into teaching

24

ed-prep leaders served through 2023–24 Impact Academy cohort, reaching nearly **15,000 aspiring teachers**, **45%** of whom identify as **people of color**

8

state governing bodies advised on creating equitable and inclusive policy conditions



We are experiencing a resurgence of innovation to ensure that our pathways offer various access points, time commitments, and applied learning experiences to better serve the needs of our students and school communities."

LAURA SPENCELEY
DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION,
SUNY OSWEGO



Co-authorship of national guidelines for teacher apprenticeships approved by the U.S. Department of Labor

Release of a national policy framework to scale and sustain the mobilization of aspiring teachers as tutors, with advocacy conducted across 15+ states

Champion of White House-led initiative to mobilize 250,000 more adults as K-12 mentors and tutors



Reintroduction of federal, bipartisan legislation to expand access to high-quality tutoring and reduce the economic burden on aspiring teachers

We're preparing future teachers to enact evidence-based instructional practices in literacy and math

9,000+

current and aspiring educators served through instructional programming and tools and resources

41

teacher-preparation programs and school districts supported

+21

percentage growth in aspiring teachers' early literacy foundational skills content and instructional knowledge

+20

percentage improvement in aspiring teachers' instructional knowledge and skills using high-quality instructional materials




I am preparing candidates who will then be teaching other people's children. I owe it to them to make sure that they are the best-prepared candidates."

LAUREN BURROW
PROFESSOR,
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

The DFI modules made me think a lot more about [how] the materials that you're choosing can affect if your classroom is equitable or not. It's something I didn't pay a ton of attention to beforehand."

JESSICA DASHER
TUTOR AND TEACHER-CANDIDATE,
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY



 Feelings of teaching preparedness **increased by 49%** after using our high-quality instructional materials modules

Any time I'd get a job reference or a call for one of these kids, I'd say, they're like a third-year teacher in my book."

LISA DUNN
CLINICAL SUPERVISOR,
TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY