



ReadyKids!

Prepared for Day One of Kindergarten and Beyond

Press Release

For Immediate Release

ReadyKids!
Contact: Kristy Craig, Program Director
Phone: 850-380-3652
Email: kristy@readykidsfl.org

ReadyKids! Celebrates \$30,000 Grant

PENSACOLA, Fla. – May 4, 2023

Local nonprofit ReadyKids! celebrates the award of a \$30,086 grant from The Sunstone Project.

This one-time grant supports ReadyKids! programming related to ReadingPals and family engagement – including but not limited to expansion to two additional ReadingPals sites and creation of a fourth Born Learning Trail – all with a focus on increasing kindergarten readiness in Escambia County.

ReadingPals is a Pre-K mentoring program that activates and equips community volunteers to get hands-on in helping our youngest learners with academic and social-emotional success. The ReadingPals program is designed to impact students with the highest need as early as possible with the goal of increasing kindergarten readiness. Last year, only 42% of Escambia County students came to kindergarten “ready” to learn as assessed by the Florida Department of Education.

ReadingPals is currently in 10 Escambia County Public School prekindergarten classrooms and three early childhood classrooms through Community Action Head Start.

Sunshine Specialist Gray Triandiflou shares, “The Sunstone Project is excited to partner with ReadyKids! in support of their mission to help children in the Pensacola community reach their full potential. ReadyKids! stood out to us because they care about meeting each child where they are and finding ways to make learning fun and exciting again, a sentiment that The Sunstone Project supports and shares.”

For more information about ReadyKids! programming or family engagement resources, please visit ReadyKidsFL.org or contact Kristy Craig at Kristy@ReadyKidsFL.org or 850-380-3652.

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Founded in 2007, ReadyKids! is a leader in the early literacy space for prekindergarten students in Escambia County and an extension of support for their families. ReadyKids! focuses on mentoring students, engaging families in the education process of their prekindergartners, and supporting educators – all to maximize children’s potential through increased school readiness.