UF

THE DAVID AND WANDA BROWN
CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP & SERVICE
STUDENT LIFE | UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Annual Report

2024-2025

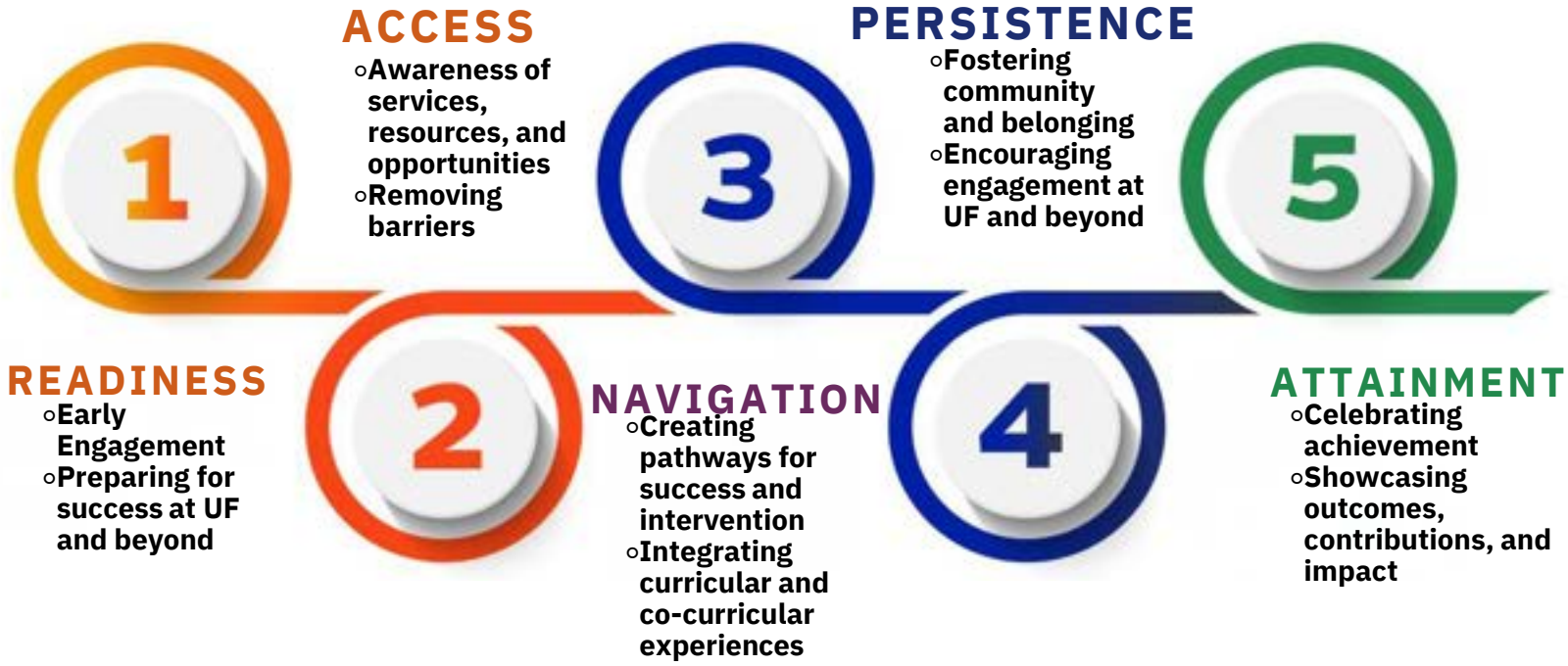
OUR COMMITMENT

Our Mission: The University of Florida Division of Student Life champions meaningful experiences that foster community connection, career design and lifelong wellbeing.

Our Vision: Every Gator is prepared for lifelong success through an individualized, excellent student experience.

ONE UF

The University of Florida is a premier institution that the state, nation, and world look to for leadership and innovation to support the future of work. We are committed to ensure all Gators thrive throughout their career journey.Through our UF community, we are all responsible for supporting student success and post-graduation outcomes. Our "One UF" approach drives career readiness and academic integration across all majors.



MESSAGE FROM THE AVP

The David and Wanda Brown Center for Leadership & Service is proud to celebrate 20 years of empowering students and communities. As we honor our past, we reflect on the countless contributions of students, faculty, staff, alumni, community partners, and supporters who have shaped our journey.

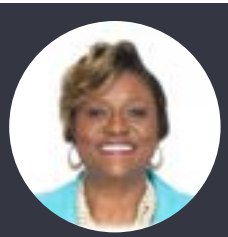
Today, the Brown Center is UF's hub for community engagement, volunteerism, service-learning, and leadership development- bridging curricular and co-curricular experiences. We have embraced bold vision and innovative approaches to enhance service-learning and leadership development across the University of Florida. We are fostering opportunities for experiential learning, forging mutually beneficial partnerships, and preparing the next generation of leaders and innovators who will change the world. At the Brown Center, we believe leadership and service go hand in hand. Every act of leadership has the potential to create change, and every act of service strengthens our communities.

The UF Brown Center for Leadership & Service stands at a pivotal moment of opportunity and transformation. We have strategically realigned and reimagined our approach to leadership, service, and experiential learning over the last year, *ensuring that every student is not only prepared for the world, but ready to lead it.*

This period of transformative change has deepened our commitment to providing high-impact, real-world experiences where students learn, act, and impact both on campus and in the community.

Thank you to our many stakeholders including students, faculty, staff, community partners, and supporters for contributing to our efforts over the 2024-2025 academic year. Please enjoy this annual report as it showcases our impact across this historic year.

Go Gators!



Ja'Net Glover

Ja'Net Glover, MS
Associate Vice President for Career and Integrative Partnerships

OUR STRATEGIC IMPACT

Our mission at the David and Wanda Brown Center for Leadership & Service (BCLS) is to build a community of engaged students and community partners to co-create experiential learning opportunities through leadership development, service, and community partnerships for positive change.

Our vision is for every Gator to contribute to a thriving global community.

Our purpose is to enhance student and learner preparedness through leadership and service for greater contributions in citizenship, work, and life.
Integration of leadership and service into the educational fabric of UF to impact the core student experience.

LEARN

The journey of leadership and service begins with learning. At the UF Brown Center for Leadership and Service, we believe that effective leaders are informed and knowledgeable. Our programs are designed to provide you with the skills, insights, and understanding needed to navigate complex challenges.

ACT

Learning is only the first step. True leadership and service is demonstrated through action. The UF Brown Center for Leadership and Service encourages you to take initiative and apply what you've learned to real-world scenarios. Whether through community service, campus involvement, or innovative projects, we support your efforts to make a tangible difference.

IMPACT

The ultimate goal of leadership and service is to make a lasting impact. At the UF Brown Center for Leadership and Service, we aim to empower you to create significant and sustainable change. By focusing on impact, you can leave a legacy of improvement and progress, enriching both your community and the broader world.

YEAR IN REVIEW: HIGHLIGHTS

96% of UF Students participate in Experiential Learning during their time at UF

6,933 Students Engaged with the Gators for Good Network*

118 Community Partners Engaged with the Gators for Good Network*

121 UF Faculty and Staff Partnered with BCLS

7,711 Experiential Learning Offerings across the University

80 Service Opportunities Hosted by the BCLS*

$2,455,221 Economic Impact by Presidential Service Award Winners**

**BCLS-Specific Information, July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025*
***Based on average economic impact of volunteers being $34.79 per hour worked (Independent Sector, University of Maryland, Bureau of Labor Statistics)*

LEARN

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Faculty & Staff Consultations for the Gators for Good Network

“The Gators for Good Network made gathering volunteers for the 2025 World Masters Athletics Indoor Championship a breeze! Overall the site is very user friendly and customizable. We will definitely be using the Gators for Good Network for future events!” - Emily Stillwell, Gainesville Sports Commission

“The BCLS staff has been excellent in supporting our office in navigating the implementation of the Gators For Good Network. The platform itself has been instrumental in helping our team collect data to help tell the story of the impact our Greek-letter organizations make. It has helped us streamline communication and assessment for events, shaving off hours of administrative/manual work. Can't recommend this platform/team enough!” - Sarah Liu, Program Coordinator for the Office of Sorority & Fraternity Life

ACT

LeadUF

LeadUF is the signature leadership development experience hosted by the Brown Center. Blending Career, Leadership, and Community Service, LeadUF is a catalyst for anyone looking to get a jumpstart on their leadership journey at the University of Florida.

"I couldn't have asked for a better way to lead me into my first year of college." - Student Volunteer

"LeadUF is the best practical orientation to UF. It truly opened me up socially and got me adjusted to the UF environment and culture." - Student Volunteer

"All the peer leaders made me feel welcomed and inspired me to follow the same path in becoming a peer leader! I will, most definitely, be back for September!" - Student Volunteer

LeadUF has recently undergone a recent transformation that has generated a substantial increase in its economic contribution to the community. This transformation expanded student involvement and fostered deeper program engagement. This year, LeadUF saw 26 student leaders and 102 volunteers make a **meaningful economic impact of over $45,000** between two planning days and one service day.

IMPACT

In the 2024-2025 academic year, the Brown Center for Leadership & Service mobilized the UF community to engage in meaningful action, facilitating **37 service projects** across **62 distinct service sites.**

Our Signature **Days of Service** offered accessible opportunities for students to engage in the community.

The **Presidential Service Awards** are a prestigious honor recognizing graduating students who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to service throughout their time at the University of Florida.
Undergraduate students are required to have completed at least 400 hours, and graduate/professional students are required to have completed at least 200 hours at the time of graduation.

2025 Awards

124	Class of '25 Award Recipients
73,312	Service Hours
$2,455,221	Total Economic Impact of Service Award Recipients

Days of Service

$15,099	LeadUF Day of Service
$2,572	9/11 Day of Service
$12,263	MLK Day of Service
$3,804	Earth Day of Service

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Campus Consultations & Workshops

Campus collaborations with interested individuals led to the formation of 48 On-Campus Partnerships. These partners were trained on a variety of topics, including the Gators for Good Network, Service-Learning Best Practices, and Developing Leadership Skills aligned to NACE career competencies.

Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement

In 2025, the University of Florida achieved a historic milestone by submitting its first institutional application for the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement (2026 Cycle), a prestigious national designation recognizing institutions where community engagement is deeply embedded in the university's identity and mission.

Volunteer Fairs

Volunteers held two days of on-campus fairs in the Fall and Summer which hosted nearly 40 partners at each fair and over 250 students.

STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Sarah Blanc

- Received the Career Service Providers Certification from the NCDA

Alyson Rodriguez

- Received the Career Service Providers Certification from the NCDA
- Presented at the Gulf South Summit for Service-Learning - “Maximizing Technology Tools to Innovate Service-Learning Opportunities Using the 3E Framework for Lifelong Learning”
- Awarded the *“Leader in Learning”* Award by GivePulse
- Named to GivePulse’s Advisory Committee

Kennedy Struck

- Received the Career Service Providers Certification from the NCDA

George Mitsios

- Received the Career Service Providers Certification from the NCDA

James Agan

- Received the Career Service Providers Certification from the NCDA
- Presented at the Gulf South Summit for Service-Learning - “Empowering Student-Led Community Impact Through Asset-Based Service-Learning”

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Stay Connected!

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