Providing students with the strategies and tools they need for academic and life success is at the heart of our mission.

ResearchILD’s impact over this past year reflects teachers’ increased understanding that executive function strategies are critically important for helping students to navigate the academic and social challenges of school.

The effects of the pandemic continue to reverberate throughout education and we are as committed as ever to helping educators, parents, and students to understand the vital connections between executive function and learning.

We are looking forward to 2023 and are excited about implementing our new initiatives and transforming the lives of more students so that they can learn how to learn.

Lynn Meltzer, PhD
Founder & Director

Mark Logan, PhD
Executive Director

By the numbers ...

- 226,875 students have received executive function strategy instruction via SMARTS.
- 14,025 educators have attended our conferences, trainings, and workshops.
- 6,075 teachers have used the SMARTS curriculum in their classrooms.
- 2,082 schools in 47 states and 28 countries have participated in our programs.
- 82% growth in SMARTS licenses from 2021 to 2022.
Addressing executive function needs through an equity lens

In 2022, the EF and Equity Fellowship brought together educators to explore how schools are addressing students’ executive function needs through an equity lens. Each month we examined how educators can use executive function as a transformative tool for building differentiated, inclusive instruction and developing community-based practices. Areas of focus for the current academic year include implicit bias and social-emotional learning.

Executive function starts with student understanding and self-reflection

After launching the MetaCOG Online Strategy Use Survey in January, we began developing the online version of the Motivation and Effort (ME) Survey. In numerous pilots, educators shared feedback to shape the final version. 2022 marked the second year of the SMARTS Student Ambassador Program, a student focus group designed to ensure our materials accurately reflect students’ lives. The ME Survey is targeted for release in early 2023.

Conferences and trainings reach a world-wide audience

Our 37th annual Executive Function Conference explored the intersection between executive function and social-emotional learning. The conference brought together 20+ experts in the fields of executive function, ADHD, social-emotional learning, and education with a virtual audience from 7 countries and 28 states across the US. Other programming included free webinars that introduced educators to the fundamentals of executive function, and in-depth training that took educators on a deeper dive into executive function.

Get ready for 2023!

In the coming year, our team will launch the MetaCOG Surveys and Toolkit, a SMARTS @ Home EF curriculum for parents and homeschoolers, a new website and e-learning environment, a fully online SMARTS platform, a parent education and training series, a student-focused educational therapy and EF coaching service, and an in-depth research study on the efficacy and impact of our work. It’s going to be a busy and exciting year!