LITERACY NETWORK HELPS ADULTS IN DANE COUNTY BUILD SKILLS, REACH GOALS, AND CONNECT COMMUNITIES.
**2021 LEARNER PROFILE**

### Race / Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race / Ethnicity</th>
<th>(% of learners)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian/SE Asian</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiracial</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other or Unspecified</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### AGE

- 52% 35-54 yrs
- 13% 55-64 yrs
- 30% 19-34 yrs
- 4% over 65
- 1% unspecified

### GENDER

- 31% men
- 69% women

### PARENTS IN PROGRAMS

- 46% of learners have kids in school*

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*75% are mothers, 25% are fathers

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**“The more educated I am, the more opportunities I can have. I can help my children reach their goals.”** Huber, Citizenship student

**“The most important thing for me is to improve my English skills and find confidence to do better at work.”** Leticia, Transitions ESL student

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**INCOME**

- 95% are in low-income households

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*75% are mothers, 25% are fathers*
Dear Literacy Network supporter,

Your support of adult learners in 2021 made a significant impact as we expanded our services based on the changes that affected many adult learners.

Our vaccine education program was important because many learners are in jobs that do not allow remote work. Many of our students work in hospitality, housekeeping, food service, and other customer-facing industries. We conducted a survey in April 2021 which found that our students were getting vaccinated at a rate that was 20% lower than that of the general population. We were curious to learn why and found that many students had questions about the vaccines and their safety. They wanted to know more about it before deciding, so we created lesson plans that supported learning so they could make informed decisions for themselves and their families.

After delivering the curriculum to more than 400 students, 78% of our students had gotten at least a first dose of the vaccine. I was surprised by the incredible increase in vaccination rates, but not surprised to see that our lessons were effective -- Literacy Network staff and volunteers are trusted messengers with our students. **We have built trust by showing that we truly care about the lives and goals of all our students.**

Over the last two years, we have supported students by helping them access basic needs as well as the literacy skills they need. This is only possible with your loyal sustaining support. **We are grateful to have such a caring and engaged community around adult learners in our programs.**

To further demonstrate our commitment to adult learners, we revamped our mission statement to be learner focused, with learners’ voices, their agency, and their dreams at the heart of it. It’s about what we do together: **Literacy Network helps adults in Dane County build skills, reach goals, and connect communities.**

With all the pandemic-related disruption in our programs, our team performed exceptionally well. Here are just a few highlights:

- The number of people who earned a high school diploma in 2021 was 147% of our annual goal.
- Participation in the high school completion program was 162% of our target.
- Participation in the pre-GED program was at 105% of the goal; 89% of students demonstrated gain in literacy or language.

I deeply appreciate your support of adult learners at Literacy Network.

Thank you so much,

Jeff Burkhart
Executive Director

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**2021 Board of Directors**
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Summer Rector – VP
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Dori Botts
Lotus Buckner
Bea Christensen
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Anne Karch
Gabrielle Isabel Kelenyi
Stephanie Le
Lisa Lemberger
Jen Neuls
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“Growing up in a bilingual family, I quickly learned how literacy skills can impact one’s educational opportunities and financial stability. As a volunteer ESL tutor and Board Member, I am thrilled to support Literacy Network’s mission and unwavering dedication to improve literacy across Dane County.”

- Charlie Yates, 2020-2022
Board member
DAN KUMARI came to refugee ESL (English as a Second Language) class in fall of 2021 with no English language skills and little confidence. With persistence and encouragement, she has learned the alphabet, how to spell basic vocabulary words, and can fill out questionnaires. Since starting refugee English class, Dan Kumari’s hard work has improved her skills.

GENOVEVA AND MARIO started taking ESL at Literacy Network in 2017. After years of hard work and with help from their tutors, in 2021 they each earned their High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) and continue to further their education at Madison College.

ADRIAN, his father, Benjamin, and his aunt, Maria all became U.S. citizens after enrolling in Citizenship class.

LARRY is in Essentials to improve his skills such as computer literacy. He received a computer through the Literacy Network computer loan program and after setting up internet at his home, he was able to send his first email ever.

RADHIKA started taking classes in our Community English program in Spring 2020 to improve her English skills in order to pursue her pharmacy career goal. After 40 hours of instruction over four semesters, she began applying to jobs in the spring of 2021. She diligently prepared by practicing mock interviews, email communication, note taking, and tips for making a good first impression. After months of hard work, Radhika began a job in data entry at a local biotechnology company.

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# OF LEARNERS SERVED IN LITERACY NETWORK’S PROGRAMS IN 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essential Literacy</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community English</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Literacy</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL Group Classes</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL Personal Tutoring</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GED / HSED</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Essential Literacy**: Building basic reading, writing, and computer skills with one-on-one tutoring
- **Citizenship**: Working on civic and language skills to pass the U.S. naturalization (USCIS) interview and test
- **Community English**: Meeting in the community for English as a Second Language classes for parents/families
- **Community Literacy**: Working with personal tutors on English as a Second Language skills in a classroom
- **ESL Group Classes**: Teaching various class levels that center on practical language and skills for community living and work (including basic English classes for refugees)
- **ESL Personal Tutoring**: Supporting English Language Learners with personal tutoring
- **GED / HSED**: Working toward high school credentials (High School Equivalency Diploma or GED) through personal tutoring
TOTAL INCOME $2,113,589
- Contributions 46.9%
- Grants 21.6%
- Pandemic relief (Paycheck protection / Employee retention) 20.9%
- Investment return / Other revenue 5.4%
- Special events 2.5%
- Rental revenue 2.1%
- Program service fees 0.6%

TOTAL EXPENSES $1,396,901
Program services:
- ESL services 63.5%
- Adult basic education services 15.3%
Supporting activities:
- Management and general 11.3%
- Fundraising 9.9%

END OF YEAR NET ASSETS $4,012,143

“Because they are so trusted, a very large percentage of their learners are vaccinated. It is one of the best organizations we support.”

Literacy Network donor, November 2021

Literacy Network is a Top-Rated Nonprofit by GreatNonprofits and has attained the GuideStar Platinum Seal of Approval.
## 2021 AT-A-GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students served</td>
<td>779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional hours</td>
<td>24,692 (28% increase over 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours per student</td>
<td>32 (19% increase over 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total volunteers and volunteer hours</td>
<td>295 and 8,384 (average 28 hours per volunteer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learners earned HS equivalency diploma/GED</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learners became U.S. citizens</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants reported promotions</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received raises</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Got new jobs with better pay</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in total number of volunteers</td>
<td>22% increase over 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of learners identifying computer</td>
<td>39% of their goals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MISSION:**

Literacy Network helps adults in Dane County build skills, reach goals, and connect communities.

[www.litnetwork.org](http://www.litnetwork.org)