



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

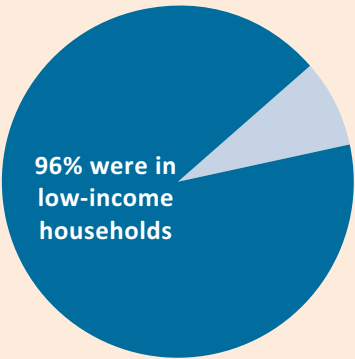
Literacy Network helps adults in Dane County build skills, reach goals, and connect communities.

CELEBRATING 50 FACES FOR 50 YEARS

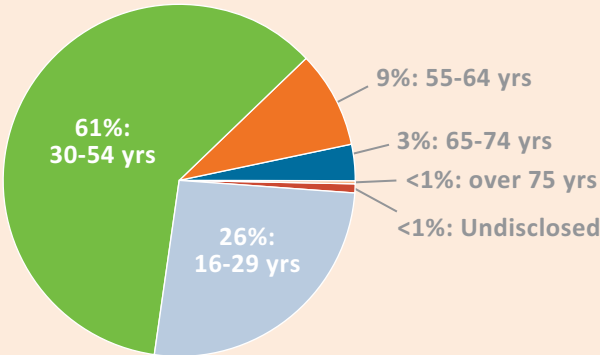


2024 STUDENT PROFILE

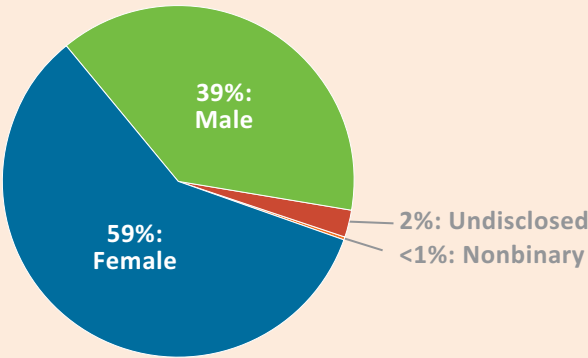
INCOME



AGE



GENDER



STUDENT SURVEY

100% of students are happy with their teacher or tutor

95% of students would recommend Literacy Network to a friend

RACE / ETHNICITY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Asian/SE Asian	107
Black/African American	206
Latinx	973
Multiracial	25
Native American	1
White	125
Other	36
Undisclosed	85



“They make us feel comfortable and like you belong here.”

Maria, former Citizenship class participant, now U.S. citizen



“Upon joining Literacy Network, I gained the opportunity to not only learn the language but also to become familiar with American culture and build valuable connections.

The program proved to be a true lifesaver.”

Sasha, Transitions ESL student, Ukrainian refugee, doctor and scientist in Kyiv

Dear Literacy Network Friends,

Thank you to all who participated in celebrating Literacy Network's 50th anniversary in 2024! Throughout the year, we explored and reflected upon Literacy Network's history and impact.

The agency was started in 1974 by volunteers. Volunteers continue to play a critical role today. **In 2024, 325 volunteer tutors helped us maximize the number of students served and tailored lesson plans to individual student needs and desires.** Our volunteer base has grown to include current and former students, data entry and garden volunteers, as well as board and committee members.

Student goals have remained remarkably consistent. Goals identified in newsletters from the early 1990s included obtaining a better job, getting a driver's license, improving math skills, navigating interactions at stores and with healthcare providers, learning to use computers, and obtaining U.S. citizenship. All of these remain student goals today. **Literacy Network increased support for citizenship applicants in 2024 with our first full year of direct grant funding from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to support citizenship classes.** (Note: funding has been discontinued in 2025.)

While student goals have remained consistent, Literacy Network has continually innovated to better meet student needs. Our current tutoring programs are a product of multiple adaptations to maximize flexibility and individualization for students and support for tutors. **In 2024, we added an 11th ESL tutoring class, and tutors embedded in Madison College High School Equivalency Diploma classes saw 82% of the students they worked with pass their HSED class.**

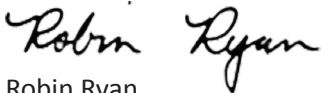
Over the years, we expanded the reach of our services through numerous partnerships. We first held group tutoring sessions at Bayview Apartments in 1982, and Bayview Community Center is a partner today. **In 2024, we celebrated over 10 years of continuous partnerships with Middleton-Cross Plains School District and Sun Prairie Westside Elementary School for Community English.**

Early in the 1980s, Literacy Network worked with students from Southeast Asia and Cuba, establishing a pattern of welcoming refugees. **In 2024, we created a women-only English class for Afghan women on the Northeast Side of Madison.**

During 2024, we worked to make **Omega School a program of Literacy Network**, furthering our 50-year history of support for obtaining a GED. Also, we expanded into the whole building at 701 Dane Street, including construction that created a larger classroom. **The additional space, with donor support, enabled us to serve the largest number of students in our 50-year history and make an investment in the future.**

We are proud to share the students' achievements and grateful to all Literacy Network supporters for ensuring continued impact!

Sincerely,



Robin Ryan
Executive Director



2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tana Elias – President

Douglas Keillor
– Vice President

Anne Karch – Secretary

Ryan Smith – Treasurer

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Janet Berger

Jeff Boudreau

Lindsay Broms

Melissa Burchell-Dogra

Bea Christensen

Lau Christensen

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Becky Funk

Stephanie Le

Stephanie Ortiz

Sherrice Perry

Lynn Silverman

Francisco Soza

Seth Umbaugh

Seynabou Youm



"Growing up bilingual and having the opportunity to study different languages has been an enriching experience. My language skills have benefited every aspect of my life. Reflecting on my experiences, I recognize that my support system and access to literacy have been crucial in creating numerous opportunities for me. I am eager to contribute to an organization dedicated to breaking down barriers, and being part of such a meaningful and empowering initiative."

- Seynabou Youm

Visit bit.ly/50FacesOfLN for video interviews with the 50 faces featured on the cover!



"I've been involved with Literacy Network since the late 1970s, and I've stayed involved without intrusion or interruption. I support Literacy Network because it's an investment not only in myself, it's an investment in hope for the future. Without knowing how to communicate, we can't develop or evolve."

- George Hesselberg, loyal donor



Omar and Olha, 2024
Community English students

"He is my grandson now." - Olha

English classes offer opportunities beyond language instruction. Omar, from Senegal, and Olha, from Ukraine, formed a strong connection through many classes. They often sat and practiced together.



Cynthia, volunteer tutor

"I was tutored as well, trying to get my GED, and I know the struggle and desire that students go through while being tutored. It's a rewarding, really rewarding experience and I love to be able to give back what was given to me."

- Cynthia



Andrea, Leidy, Yunielka,
2024 Community English
students

"The class helped me to meet new people. It was entertaining with well-planned topics."

- Andrea

"The class was good: full of knowledge and fun."

- Leidy

"The class was super interesting, I learned many things. It helped me in my job and school my son."

- Yunielka

OF STUDENTS SERVED IN 2024

55

Essential Literacy: Build basic reading, writing, and computer skills with one-on-one tutoring

654

ESL Group Classes: Focus on practical language skills for work and community life, in various class levels

134

Citizenship: Work on civics and language skills to pass the U.S. naturalization interview and test

22

ESL Personal Tutoring: Study 1:1 with volunteer tutors who write personalized lesson plans, in locations around Dane County

606

Community English: Attend ESL classes at host sites (schools, libraries, community centers) to accommodate parents and families

63

GED/HSED: Work toward high school equivalency completion (GED/HSED) through personal tutoring

109

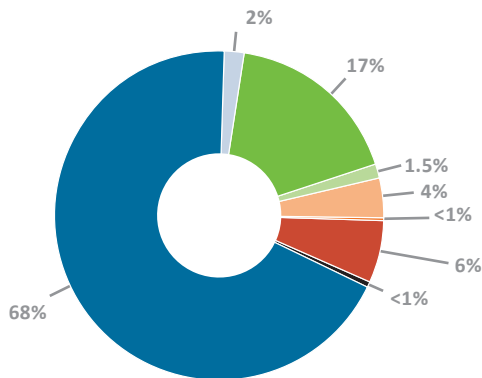
Community Literacy: Work 1:1 with a volunteer tutor in a group setting, with an individualized lesson plan prepared by a Literacy Network intern

106

Workplace English: Learn English through customized lessons on-site at employers to increase communication for safety, productivity, and morale

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

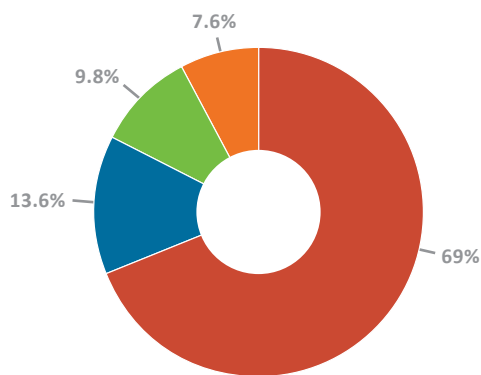
Audited Statement of Activities for the Year Ended
December 31, 2024



TOTAL INCOME \$2,617,682

- Contributions - \$1,791,74*
- Special events - \$54,838
- Grants - \$455,909
- Donated services and materials - \$51,370
- Program service fees - \$99,039
- Change in value of beneficial interest in assets held by MCF - \$3,540
- Investment return, net - \$166,515
- Other revenue - \$7,361

*includes pledges made in 2024 for multi-year gifts



TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,187,479

Program services:

- ESL services - \$1,523,420
- Adult basic education services - \$297,380

Supporting activities:

- Management and general - \$213,348
- Fundraising - \$165,968

END-OF-YEAR NET ASSETS \$4,054,614

2024 FUNDERS

GOVERNMENT

City of Madison
Dane County
Wisconsin Department of Administration
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families
Wisconsin Public Service Commission
Wisconsin Technical College System
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS

2nd Market Capital Economic Opportunity Foundation
Alliant Energy Foundation
Brooks Point Foundation
Lau and Bea Christensen Charitable Foundation
DeAtley Family Foundation
Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation
Evjue Foundation
Green Bay Packers Foundation
Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation
Madison Community Foundation
Madison Community Foundation – A Fund for Women
Madison Investments
Madison South Rotary Foundation
MGE Foundation
Nora Roberts Foundation
Old National Bank Foundation
Oscar Rennebohm Foundation
Otto Bremer Trust
Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation
Roots & Wings Foundation
Schlecht Family Foundation
Steuer Family Foundation
Trustage Foundation
UW Credit Union
Widen Family Foundation

OTHER COMMUNITY PARTNERS

100+ Women Who Care Madison
Altrusa Club of Madison
Ascendium Education
Bayview Community Center
Centro
COABE
Dane Manufacturing
The Edgewater Hotel
Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
Epic Systems
Madison Magnet
Madison Metropolitan School District
Madison Public Library
Middleton Public Library
Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District
PLATO
Poynette Ironworks
ProLiteracy
Strand Associates, Inc.
Sun Prairie Area School District
United Way of Dane County
Vera Court Neighborhood Center
Verona Public Library
Waunakee Public Library
Wisconsin Literacy



2024 AT A GLANCE



1,558 students served (record number & 8% increase over 2023)



46,384 instructional hours (16% increase over 2023)

30 average hours per student



417 total volunteers

11,439 total volunteer hours (average 27 hours per volunteer)



216 refugees participated in programming (27% increase over 2023)



68 home languages represented in student population



88 countries of origin represented in student population



50 adults became U.S. citizens



133 people in employment-related programs achieved their goal of a new job or promotion

434 employed students achieved a workplace goal (raise, improved on-job communication, used a computer at work)



20 students earned their high school equivalency diploma (GED or HSED)