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

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2023 STUDENT PROFILE

INCOME
- 95% were in low-income households

AGE
- 59%: 30-54 yrs
- 26%: 18-29 yrs
- 8%: 55-64 yrs
- 4%: 65-74 yrs
- 1%: over 75 yrs
- 2%: Undisclosed

GENDER
- 58%: Female
- 38%: Male
- 3%: Undisclosed
- <1%: Nonbinary

STUDENT SURVEY
- 100% of students are happy with their teacher or tutor
- 96% of students would recommend Literacy Network to a friend

RACE / ETHNICITY | NUMBER OF STUDENTS
--- | ---
Asian/SE Asian | 115
Black/African American | 188
Latinx | 852
Multiracial | 25
Native American | 3
White | 143
Undisclosed | 119

"My listening is improved a lot, so I start to join my kids’ school being the volunteer.”
Weichen, student

"I have gained the ability to express myself in English. So I feel more comfortable when I’m at work or going for shopping or when I need to interact with people in some other way.”
Sefer, student (R), and Steve, ESL personal tutor (L)
Dear Literacy Network Friends,

2023 was a truly remarkable year for student enrollment, achievement, and leadership. With 1,445 students, we exceeded our previous record enrollment by 21%. Literacy Network expanded its capacity thanks to generous individual donors, grant funders, volunteers, and community partners.

We added two ESL classes; new Workplace partners Electronic Theater Controls and The Edgewater Hotel offered English classes to employees onsite; and we moved classes to Lakeview Library and the East Madison Community Center to open access to students on the north side of Madison.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services awarded Literacy Network our first direct federal grant to teach citizenship classes. Our grant partner, Centro Hispano, provides legal assistance for naturalization applications. Among the 53 students who became U.S. citizens in 2023 were husband and wife, Ratna and Chandra, who naturalized along with their son and daughter-in-law, Chak and Anita, after studying at Literacy Network.

With support from TruStage and the Coalition on Adult Basic Education, we created a Student Leadership Council (SLC) to engage students in decision making. The 13-member SLC helped choose our new tagline, “Learning for Life,” voted on the theme for our 2024 student writing book, and provided input on messaging and grants.

The Transitions program, which supports advanced English language learners preparing for college or career goals, saw its largest enrollment. Transitions student Arina told us that her life in Russia was “based on communication.” “I would say that words are my power....I feel like I lost my power and I need to get it back. I would like to communicate with people in English without fear.” This is her motivation for enrolling in class and improving her skills.

An impressive 60% of students working towards a GED or HSED earned their diplomas. Among them was Jacey, who is now enrolled in the Liberal Arts Transfer Program at Madison College.

Goodman Library, Middleton-Cross Plains School District, and Sun Prairie School District each marked a decade or more of partnership with us as Community English sites. The program thrived last year with 10 partners and served 538 students.

“’I’m Ready’ was the theme for our 2023 student book. Thanks to dedicated volunteers and loyal financial supporters, Literacy Network was ready to respond to increased demand for classes while maintaining quality and depth of services. We are proud to share the student achievements and impact in this report.

Sincerely,

Robin Ryan
Executive Director

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Nicole Cuellar – President
Tana Elias – Vice President
Janet Berger – Treasurer
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Stephanie Marquis
Jen Neuls
Stephanie Ortiz
Sarah Reusché
Lynn Silverman
Seth Umbaugh

“We view it as the best kind of community building to be able to help provide opportunities for those who want to improve their English and take advantage of programs offered at Literacy Network. It’s wonderful that they can be offered without charge. The students do not have to pay. It’s a very, very effective organization.”

- Bea and Lau Christensen, loyal donors and former Board members

“We are proud to work with Literacy Network to increase access to education and promote life-long learning.”
- Seth Umbaugh
“I’m getting my words right again.”
- Buddy

“The [council] is a space where students can serve as leaders.”
– member of Student Leadership Council

“I feel more confident when socially talking to people so I can say now I feel good.”
- Solange

“I want to show you that we can still fulfill dreams that at some point were unfinished.”
- Rocio

# OF STUDENTS SERVED IN 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essential Literacy:</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship:</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community English:</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Literacy:</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL Group Classes:</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL Personal Tutoring:</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GED/HSED:</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace English:</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

**Community Literacy**: Work with personal tutors on English as a Second Language skills in a classroom

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

**ESL Personal Tutoring**: Support English Language Learners with personal tutoring

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

**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, 2023

TOTAL INCOME $2,023,177
- Contributions - $1,079,671
- Special events - $47,642
- Grants - $597,120
- Donated services and materials - $36,050
- Program service fees - $52,629
- Rental revenue - $28,786
- Change in value of beneficial interest in assets held by MCF - $7,733
- Investment return, net - $169,127
- Other revenue - $4,419

TOTAL EXPENSES $1,910,144
Program services:
- ESL services - $1,271,163
- Adult basic education services - $307,518
Supporting activities:
- Management and general - $171,782
- Fundraising - $159,681

END-OF-YEAR NET ASSETS $3,624,411

2023 FUNDERS

GOVERNMENT
- City of Madison
- Wisconsin Department of Administration
- Wisconsin Department of Children and Families
- Wisconsin Public Service Commission
- Wisconsin Technical College System
- United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS
- Alliant Energy Foundation
- American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation
- Brooks Point Foundation
- Lau and Bea Christensen Charitable Foundation
- Dollar General Literacy Foundation
- Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation
- Goodman Foundation
- Hy Cite Gives Back
- Kunes Family Foundation
- Madison Community Foundation – A Fund for Women
- Madison South Rotary Foundation
- Madison West/Middleton Rotary Foundation
- MGE Foundation
- Nimick Forbesway Foundation
- Nora Roberts Foundation
- Oscar Rennebohm Foundation
- Otto Bremer Trust
- Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation
- Starbucks Foundation
- Steuer Family Foundation
- Sub-Zero Wolf Foundation
- U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation

OTHER COMMUNITY PARTNERS
- Altrusa Club of Madison
- Ascendium Education
- Bayview Community Center
- Coalition on Adult Basic Education
- Covering Wisconsin
- The Edgewater Hotel
- Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC)
- End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin: The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Epic Systems
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Madison Public Library
- Middleton Public Library
- Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District
- NewBridge
- PLATO
- Stevens Construction
- Sun Prairie Area School District
- United Way of Dane County
- Verona Public Library
- Waunakee Neighborhood Connection
- Waunakee Public Library
- Wisconsin Literacy
2023 AT A GLANCE

1,445 students served (37% increase over 2022)

39,854 instructional hours (35% increase over 2022)

28 average hours per student

407 total volunteers

10,701 total volunteer hours (average 26 hours per volunteer)

60 home languages represented in student population

88 countries of origin represented in student population

53 adults became U.S. citizens (33% increase over 2022)

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

82% of employed students achieved a workplace goal (raise, improved on-job communication, use of transportation to work)

170 refugees participated in programming (68% increase over 2022)

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