



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

COMING TOGETHER TO CREATE CLARITY,
CONNECTIONS, AND CONFIDENCE



WE CHANGE LIVES
WITH LITERACY

Literacy DuPage trains volunteer tutors to provide customized, one-on-one instruction for adults who do not know the English language. Our tutors meet learners when and where it's convenient, one-on-one. They set practical goals—communicate with a grocery store checker, apply for a job, read to a child—and discover life-changing results by achieving them. We are a nonprofit, community-based organization in DuPage County, Illinois.

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Thank you, friends of Literacy DuPage, for coming together in 2016 to change lives:

Learners' lives ... as they learn to communicate, feel at home in the community, rise from poverty, grow in self-sufficiency, and create a more promising future.

Tutors' lives ... as they witness and support these breakthrough achievements.

All our lives ... as English language learners engage in the world we share and contribute their talents and ideas to the community.

Thanks to our generous donors and 401 extraordinary volunteer tutors, Literacy DuPage served 503 learners in 2016. Each one of them received free, one-on-one instruction—customized to develop the skills they needed most. And we did all this on a lean budget. A full 86% of funding went directly into programming to benefit our learners.

Building on these great results, we are ready to achieve even more in 2017. Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Therese McMahon
Executive Director
Literacy DuPage



100,000

DuPage County residents need to improve their English skills. The need for literacy education is enormous.

HOW DO WE MEET THIS ENORMOUS NEED?

Literacy DuPage provides free, customized, one-on-one English language tutoring to adults with low-level skills who have difficulty accessing classroom instruction due to transportation obstacles, work schedules, or lack of childcare. We train volunteer tutors to help their neighbors increase their English skills so they can achieve practical goals like finding a better job, navigating the healthcare system, advocating for their families, or helping their children in school. In fact, children are an important part of what we do. Our tutor volunteers **teach a parent and, in turn, reach a child**, helping them to succeed in school and life.

Literacy DuPage empowers adults, families, and communities through literacy.

503

adult learners achieved their language goals in 2016

401

volunteers gave 19,093 hours to Literacy DuPage in 2016

91.5

percent of our learners are learning English as a second language

90

percent of our learners come from low-income households

37

languages are spoken by our learners, who come from 45 countries

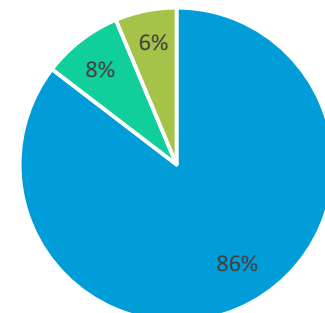
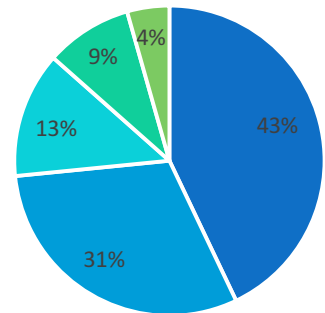
40

percent of our learners are underemployed or seeking employment

OUR 2016 FINANCES

Support & Revenue	
Businesses, Foundations & Organizations	\$97,482
Government Grants	\$69,260
Individual Contributions	\$29,794
Fundraising & Sponsorships	\$20,577
United Way	\$10,000
Total Before Donated Services/In-Kind	\$227,113
Program Service Fees & Other	\$17,878
Donated Services/In-Kind	\$491,540
Total Support & Revenue	\$736,531

Expenses	
Program Services	\$272,470
Fundraising Expenses	\$26,426
Management & General	\$20,170
Total Before Donated Services/In-Kind	\$319,066
Donated Services/In-Kind	\$491,540
Total Expenses	\$810,606
Decrease in Net Assets	\$(74,075)
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$171,171
Net Assets End of Year	\$97,096



This statement was prepared based on financial statements audited by Wieland & Company, Inc. Certified Public Accountants, who expressed an unqualified opinion on this year's financials.

OUR COMMUNITY GIVES GENEROUSLY

LITERACY DUPAGE THRIVES ON THE GENEROSITY OF DONORS WHO BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF LANGUAGE TO EMPOWER LIVES, STRENGTHEN FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES, AND CHANGE THE WORLD. WE THANK THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR SUPPORTING LITERACY DUPAGE IN 2016.

\$5,000 Plus

City of Naperville
Community Memorial Foundation
DuPage County Human Services
DuPage Foundation
Illinois State Library, a Division of
the Office of the Secretary of State
Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation
The Grace Bersted Foundation c/o
Bank of America
The Nora Roberts Foundation

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Exchange Club of Naperville
Steven Laughman

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Comcast
Jean & Frank Demas
DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church
Giving DuPage
Grove Foundation for Recreation
Carol & Lloyd Hendrickson
Lisle Library District
MCS Foundation
Naperville Jaycees
Stephen & Betty Rae Smith
Robert & Sue Talbot
Walmart - Darien
Walmart - Villa Park

\$500 to \$999

Blistex Inc.
Capstone Financial Advisors, Inc.
Dr. John Dainauskas
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Itasca Bank & Trust Co.
Cathy & James Kakuska

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Lia Rubino
Joe Sarnicki
Unilever Ambassadors Club
Walmart - Naperville
Wheaton Lions Club

\$250 to \$499

Ball Horticultural Co.
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Nathan & Erin Cooley
Fancy-Free Holidays, Inc.
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Jill Pollack
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William Schmid
Bonnie Scott-Christensen

Bernie & Sergio Steiger
Laura Temple
Tesol International Association
Lisa & Mike Thackeray
The Chicagoland & Suburban Law
Firm, A Professional Corp.
Dr. Mark Wright, D.M.D.
Ada & Tim Zingelman

\$100 to \$249

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Margaret & James Bain
Ken & Annabel Bergman
Keri Bernhard
Gail Brown
Budget Blinds of Naperville
C Saw Marketing Group
Calumet Electric Supply Corp
Canteen Refreshment Services
Bryan Carlson
Caton Commercial Real Estate
CFC of the National Campaign Area
Ronald & Elizabeth Chin
Nikola & Ana Colakovic
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Tracy Conn
Corbett, Duncan & Hubly
Corporate Concepts
Dart Container Corporation
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Liya Wang & Ding Chen
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Ande Wegner
Jan & Dennis Wencil
Anne Wick

Less than \$100

AmazonSmile Foundation
Don Anderson
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Michelle Brandseth
Kristina & Alan Breiseth
Sandra Brennan
Amber Brown
Michael Brown
Nancy Brown
Thomas & Mary Ann Callum
Carol Stream Public Library
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Coman & Anderson
Shelley Condon
Nancy Connelly
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Lori Connor
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Anna Marek
Rita & Tom Mathern
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Nick Maucieri
McDonald's Corporation
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Dawn Muldoon
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Jeanne Rechenmacher
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Laura & Ed Rivas
David Roberg
Lynn & Dave Robertson
Cindi Roselieb
Pete & Becky Rundquist
Elaine & Albert Ryba
Beth Schuller Family
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Katharine Seelig
Linda & Harvey Segal

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 Pat Shanower
 Patrick & Katie Shay
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 Preetinder Singh & Sarv Raj
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 Ray Skowron
 Heather Smit
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 Thomas Stepnowski
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 Mark & Barbara Turner
 Antoinette Tuscano
 We-care.com
 William White
 Margaret Wilson
 Jill & Mark Wright
 Sally York

Community Partners

Cathleen Grady Charitable Fund
 City of Naperville
 Community Memorial Foundation
 Dollar General Literacy Foundation
 DuPage County Human Services
 DuPage Foundation
 Exchange Club of Naperville
 Grove Foundation for Recreation
 Illinois State Library, a Division of
 the Office of the Secretary of State
 Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation
 Tesol International Association
 The Grace Bersted Foundation
 The Nora Roberts Foundation
 Walmart - Darien
 Walmart - Naperville
 Walmart - Villa Park
 Wheaton Lions Club

Recognition Luncheon

Sponsors

EVENT SPONSORS

Comcast
 Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation

TABLE SPONSORS

Ball Horticultural Co.
 Friends of the Glenside Library
 Lisle Library District
 RPC Leadership Associates, Inc.
 Stellco Properties, LLC

In-Kind Donations

A Matter of Style Salon & Day Spa
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 Anderson's Bookshops
 BB Nail Spa
 Betsy & Peter Nassos
 Breakthru Beverage Illinois
 Bull and Bear Tobacco Shop
 Butterfield Park District
 Cabernet & Company
 Carol Stream Public Library
 Catch 35 Seafood & Premium Steaks
 Cecilia Smith
 Cellar 406
 Center Ice DuPage
 Chicago Bears
 Chicago Blackhawks Hockey Team, Inc.
 Chicago Bulls
 Chicago Cubs
 Chicago Tribune Company
 Chicago White Sox
 Cooper's Hawk
 Cristiana Jacobs
 D.O.C. Wine Bar
 Daily Herald Media Group
 Dan Egbers
 DuPage Children's Museum
 Egg Harbor Cafe
 Emy Trotz
 Fiamme Pizzeria Napoletana
 Fibergig
 Fire and Wine

Four Lakes Alpine Snowsports
 Fox Bowl
 Frost Gelato
 Harold D McAninch Arts Center
 Hugo's Frog Bar & Fish House
 Jay Mixa Art
 Jeanine Pfau
 Jeans & A Cute Top Shop
 Karen Seymour-Ells
 Kids Town
 Krissy Souliotis
 Kristina Purdy
 Main Event
 Marcel's
 Massage Envy
 Northwestern Mutual Wealth
 Management Company
 Oberwies
 Occasions
 Orange Theory Fitness
 Out on a Whim
 Parkers' American Restaurant & Bar
 Pinot's Palette
 PRP Wine International
 Rockin Jump
 Rosati's
 Rosebud Restaurant
 Ruth Elliot
 Sal's Beverage World
 Seven Bridges Ice Arena
 Southern Wine
 Ste. Michelle Wine Estates
 Studio Movie Grill
 Tasting deVine
 Tech Soup
 Terry Ziomek
 The Bookstore
 The Fresh Market
 Twisted Olive
 Village Links Glen Ellyn
 Vintage Wine Estates
 Western Golf Association
 Wheaton Nurseries
 White Eagle Golf Club
 Winestyr

CHANGING LIVES. CHANGING THE WORLD.

IN 1999, 17-YEAR OLD **JORGE BLANCAS**, AN IMMIGRANT FROM CUERNAVACA MORELOS, MEXICO, ARRIVED IN AURORA, ILLINOIS. HE KNEW ONLY A FEW WORDS OF ENGLISH.

"I didn't need English for living in my community or working in restaurants until I started working for



Aurelio's Pizza in Naperville. My manager offered me more responsibility in the kitchen, but all of the employees were English speakers. I understood what they said, but I

couldn't speak or write English very well. This frustrated me so much that I decided to quit my job."

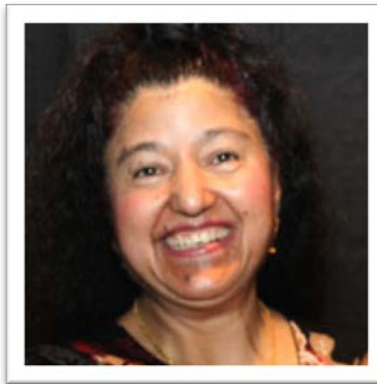
Jorge's supervisor didn't want to lose this valued employee. Rather than accept his resignation, she put Jorge in touch with Literacy DuPage. Soon, he was improving his English skills through one-on-one training, right at his workplace.

"With my tutor Laura, I began to understand this marvelous language. Learning English has been most difficult for me, but not impossible. My goal is to speak, read and write English fluently so I can communicate with all people, have more confidence at my job, and a better lifestyle."

Jorge did not quit. Today, he supervises the kitchen staff at Aurelio's. His career advancement—and growing confidence—came thanks to his own determination, his employer's support, and a life-changing relationship with Literacy DuPage.

IN 1994, **SHABNAM ARABSHAHEE** FLED THE DANGERS OF AFGHANISTAN. SHE MOVED TO PAKISTAN, WHERE SHE WORKED FOR THREE YEARS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS.

"Since I knew Persian and Pashto they had me search for Afghan refugees. I went from tent to



tent looking for Afghan women who had no husbands, families, or homes."

These women—and Shabnam herself—were granted passage to the United

States. The day after Christmas, Shabnam arrived in this country, unable to speak a word of English.

"I looked for someone to help me learn English. One day I was in the Villa Park Library. I saw a notice for [Literacy DuPage]. I called the number and a lady put my name on a list. She told me to wait."

Three weeks later, Shabnam met Michael, her tutor.

"He is very patient. This was two years ago and he is still teaching me. I learn by reading, writing, and speaking."

Shabnam works to improve her English so she can be employed, informed, and connected. She also wants to help others.

"English is an international language and by knowing English I can also help other refugees. English also helps me to understand the media and to know what is going on in the world ... Knowing English is a big part of this great and free country."

Literacy DuPage Leadership

Executive Director: Therese McMahon; Program Director: Carol Garcia

Board of Directors: Patti A. Bernhard; Dan Dahlke; Jean Demas; John Drake; Lisa Greenfield; Caly Meyers; Beth Nyland; Joseph Sarnicki; Steve Smith; Bob Talbot



VISION

Empowering adults, families, and communities through literacy

MISSION

Helping adults achieve their goals through accessible, customized tutoring in English

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

We welcome your involvement in growing the good we can do. We are focused on:

1. IMPACT

Increase our impact in DuPage County by doubling the number of active learners by the end of 2021.

2. FUNDING

Grow and diversify our funding sources. Reduce our dependence on grants. Increase individual donor and events giving.

3. CULTURE

Create an exceptional place to volunteer and work. Improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and accessibility of our programs and organization, with particular focus on tutor effectiveness.

Literacy DuPage

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