



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

CHANGING LIVES THROUGH LEARNING,
COMMUNICATION, AND DETERMINATION



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.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

CELEBRATING A YEAR OF LEARNING, COMMUNICATION, AND DETERMINATION

It's been quite a year!

Lourdes became a U.S. citizen.

Jorge improved his skills as a kitchen supervisor.

Shaima started a catering business.

Isaura no longer needs an interpreter to speak with her children's teachers.

And these are just four examples of what determined learners have achieved in the past year—changing their lives by learning to communicate in English. Our privilege, at Literacy DuPage, is helping to make these accomplishments possible. We recruit and train the devoted volunteers who provide free tutoring to adults throughout DuPage County.

The pages of this report celebrate the work of *everyone* who represents Literacy DuPage: determined learners, tireless tutors, generous donors, dedicated staff, and committed board members. When we come together, we create opportunity, community, success ... and joy!

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Therese McMahon
Executive Director
Literacy DuPage



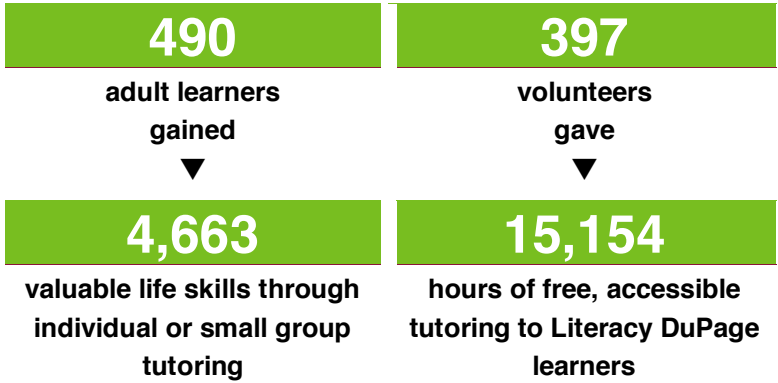
100,000+

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.

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



That's what Literacy DuPage accomplished in

2017

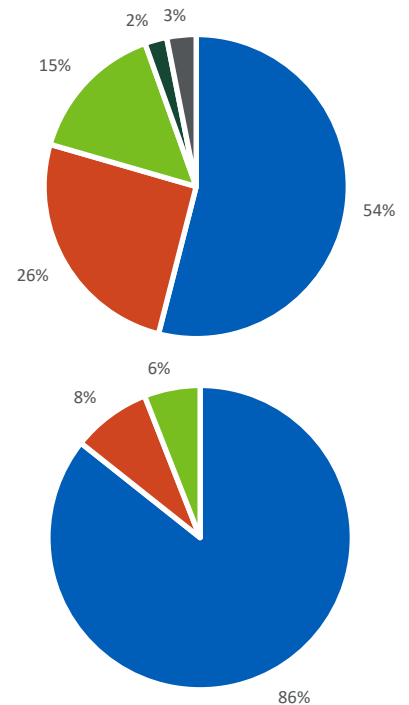
OUR 2017 FINANCES

Support & Revenue

Businesses, Foundations & Organizations	\$173,192
Government Grants	\$81,760
Individual Contributions	\$48,312
Fundraising & Sponsorships	\$7,527
United Way	\$10,000
Total Before Donated Services/In-Kind	\$320,791
Program Service Fees & Other	\$6,265
Donated Services/In-Kind	\$481,930
Total Support & Revenue	\$808,986

Expenses

Program Services	\$298,523
Fundraising Expenses	\$29,527
Management & General	\$20,963
Total Before Donated Services/In-Kind	\$349,013
Donated Services/In-Kind	\$485,603
Total Expenses	\$834,616
Decrease in Net Assets	\$(25,630)
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$97,096
Net Assets End of Year	\$71,466



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 2017.

\$5,000 Plus

Carl R Hendrickson Family Foundation
Chicago Tribune Charities, A McCormick Foundation Fund
Colonel Stanley R. McNeil Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
Community Memorial Foundation
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
DuPage County Human Services
DuPage Foundation
Exchange Club of Naperville
Illinois State Library, a Division of the Office of the Secretary of State
Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation
The Alfred Bersted Foundation

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Laura Temple
The Life Trio
Trader Joe's
20 West Wine & Spirits
WDCB 90.9 FM Jazz
Margaret & Brian Wilson

TRUE STORIES OF CHANGED LIVES

HER CHILDREN ALL SPOKE ENGLISH. NOW SHE CAN TOO.

Lourdes wanted to be involved in her children's education but struggled to communicate with her kids and their teachers in

English. She also wanted to become a U.S. citizen, but needed stronger English to pass the citizenship exam.

Lourdes asked Literacy DuPage for help.

Matched with tutor Lynn, she set two goals: (1) to become a

U.S. citizen, and (2) to interact in English with her children and be an advocate for them in the educational system.

Ten months later, she was ready.

"I will never forget the moment Lourdes sent me the message that she had passed her citizenship test," said Lynn. "I'm not sure I have ever experienced the emotions I felt that day. Simply awesome!"

Lourdes *can* express her feelings: "I am a participant now rather than an outsider. Walls have been knocked down. I am more involved with my children's school and their schoolwork. My children all speak English with each other, and now I can too! I feel proud."



SHE WANTED KNOWLEDGE, AND WITH KNOWLEDGE CAME POWER.

Literacy tutor Allison recalls meeting her learner Isaura for the first time. From the start, Allison was impressed.

"Isaura showed a commitment to be present and to learn—even though it wasn't easy for her," said Allison. "She had a new baby as well as three older children. I admired Isaura's determination to transport herself and her daughter to our weekly meetings at the library."

Isaura diligently completed her homework and willingly would take on more, said Allison. She knew that learning

to speak English better could be a game changer in her life. She saw an opportunity to become a more informed employee and a more knowledgeable parent who

could help her children do *their* best by asking questions about their school and homework.

"Isaura wanted to gain knowledge, and with knowledge came power," said Allison. "My student, who became my friend, taught me where there's a will, there's a way."



Literacy DuPage Leadership

Executive Director: Therese McMahon; Program Director: Carol Garcia

Board of Directors: Janice Anderson; Patti A. Bernhard; Dan Dahlke; Jean Demas; Lisa Greenfield; Grant McKay; Beth Nyland; Joseph Sarnicki; 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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