The Literacy Connection is dedicated to helping adults in the northwest suburbs reach their literacy goals through one-on-one volunteer tutoring and small group instruction.

Algonquin  
Bartlett  
Carpentersville  
Cary  
Elgin  
South Elgin  
East Dundee  
West Dundee  
Gilberts  
Hanover Park  
Hampshire  
Hoffman Estates  
Huntley  
Lake in the Hills  
Streamwood  
Schaumburg  

A member organization of ProLiteracy®

JESSE WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE

GRAND VICTORIA FOUNDATION

United Way
United Way of Elgin
Year of Transitions

Saying **GOODBYE** to familiar faces and **HELLO** to new ones was the unexpected theme of this past year, but as we reflect on what has been achieved we are excited about the new ways to serve our learners. We reached out to our learners and listened to what services they wanted; workplace skills was the common request. Being able to have a job is crucial towards improving our learners standard-of-living, but advancement opportunities remain very hard to achieve. Partnering with the Gail Borden Public Library we begun the new program **English in the Workplace**. Focusing on soft skills with managers and co-workers, as well as skills like constructing emails and resumes are all touched on in this 7 week course.

Your support for our Adult and Family Literacy programs allows for us to help our learners accomplish the many things that we may all take for granted; knowing your address, understanding nutrition labels, and reading to our children. We look forward to another exciting year of helping our learners find inclusion in their communities through literacy.

Thank you.

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Board President

David Zimmerman
Executive Director
Board of Directors

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Marsha Callahan  Data Manager
Yadira Alva  Program Assistant
Kate Thommes  Tutor Trainer
Rose Geijer  ESL Instructor
Mary Kearney  ESL Instructor
Alcira De La Rosa  PACT Coordinator
Liliana Gonzalez  English in the Workplace Instructor
Community Impact

Through our programming and tutoring we are helping our learners build their skills to read and write the English language.

Your Time

5,135 Hours

Our volunteer tutors donated the equivalent of 170k of staff time

Learners

239

Changing the life of each of our learners and allowing them to pursue their dreams in life.

Communities

16

Public spaces are donated throughout the area saving over 22k a year in facility expenses.

Your Help

20k

Your personal financial contributions helped us improve service for our learners and tutors.
English in the Workplace

- Improved workplace literacy skills for 20 learners.
- Focused on work-related vocabulary and conversations.
- Learned to interpretive workplace culture and understand employment rights.
- Engaged in activities including work-related vocabulary building, dialog, and role-play.
- Course sessions consisted of seven weekly 3-hour classes in a group setting at the Hoffer Room of the South Elgin Branch of the Library.
- All of those who completed the course indicated they felt more knowledgeable and confident about the job search process and would be able to apply what they had learned.
Adult Volunteer Literacy

- One-on-one tutoring for Basic Literacy learners and English as a Second Language (ESL) learners.
- Served 239 learners with 118 tutors!
- Tutors meet with their learners in 16 diverse communities throughout the northwest suburbs of the Chicagoland area.
- In this free program, we train volunteer literacy tutors to work on-on-one with our learners, with no experience needed!

Conversation Groups

ESL Conversation Groups: tutors host small groups of adult learners at various skill levels and stimulate casual conversations in English through the use of games, stories, role-playing, show-and-tell, videos and other visual aids.

Citizenship Conversation Groups: free drop-in groups to review and practice the spoken English needed for the interview and the 100 questions from the history/civics test.
GRANTORS

ALFRED BERSTED FOUNDATION

ALLSTATE HELPING HANDS

ALTRUSA

DOLLAR GENERAL FOUNDATION

GRAND VICTORIA FOUNDATION

EFS FOUNDATION

ELGIN TOWNSHIP SOCIAL SERVICE FUNDING

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GRAND VICTORIA FOUNDATION

HSN CARES

KIWANIS CLUB OF ELGIN

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY, OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

UNITED WAY OF ELGIN

VERNON LIBRARY SUPPLY
## Support and Revenue

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<th>Source</th>
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## Expenses

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## Change in Net Assets

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<td>Net Assets, End of Year</td>
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We would like to thank our supporters!

Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar
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Lou Malnati's
Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant
Allstate The Giving Campaign
Windy City Bulls
Dundee Animal Hospital
McAlister's
Village Tavern & Grill
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Chicago Sky
Maciano's Pizza & Pastaria
Riverside Pizza & Pub
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Blue Box Cafe
Platt Hill Nursery
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Dundee Township Park District
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Jimmy's Charhouse, Elgin
River Street Tavern
Time2Mrkt
Colonial Cafe
Buffalo Wild Wings
Village Pizza & Pub
Herb's Bakery
Kane County Cougars
Ophthalmology Associates
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4imprint
Trader Joe's
Arlington Park
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Chicago White Sox
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SKF
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