

“Literacy means for me compassion and hope for immigrants who want to learn English looking for a better life in this country that offers so many opportunities.”
—Maria E.

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



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Green Bay, WI 54301
920-435-2474
www.literacygreenbay.org

FROM THE DIRECTOR

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Friends of Literacy,

Years from now, when we look back at 2022-2023, I'm certain we'll see it as a pivotal year for Literacy Green Bay. It was the year in which we emphatically moved beyond recovery from a pandemic to unprecedented levels of operation.

We used our existing strong base of programmatic expertise and financial support to leverage new sources of funding. We expanded into a new space, and filled that space with students, teachers, tutors, and children morning and evening, four days a week. With more class times available and more resources for instruction and planning, our students spent more hours in class and showed the highest levels of achievement in our history.

All of this growth and success was accomplished in a very short period of time, as organizational changes go. For this, the Board wishes to thank the staff of Literacy Green Bay, especially Robyn Hallet, who tirelessly led Literacy Green Bay as Executive Director from 2018 through the end of 2022-23.

Looking ahead, we are excited to begin work with Eric Sponholtz, Literacy Green Bay's new Executive Director. Our priorities for the upcoming year will be to sustain the gains we've made and to deepen our connections to the resources of the greater Green Bay community. We thank you for your support thus far in our 42-year-long journey and look forward to your continued partnership with us into the next year and beyond.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS VANDEN HEUVEL
BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear Friends of Literacy Green Bay,

I am honored to be joining this organization as the new Executive Director. Over the past 42 years, Literacy Green Bay has tirelessly continued to improve on its mission of helping adults and families acquire the reading, writing, math, English language, computer, and workforce skills they need to function effectively as workers and community members. It is exciting for me to be able to continue in that mission with the wonderful staff and board of this organization.

Literacy at all levels, and for all walks of life, is the backbone of a productive community. Our hope is that Literacy Green Bay continues to be a beacon for those who utilize our services. To that end, we know we couldn't do what we do without the support of the community. We are grateful for that support and continue to utilize our knowledge and expertise to provide families with the best possible resources to be able to meet our core values: Empowering, Inclusive, Accountable, Collaborative, and Solutions-Oriented.

Together, we can meet our goals: to build community awareness for adult literacy and lifelong learning, helping to address the needs of our learners along the way, and increase our systems to be able to effectively evaluate all learners who walk through our doors.

On behalf of the board and staff at Literacy Green Bay, I'd like to again thank you for your support, and I can't begin to say how excited I am to serve. Together, we can continue to make a stronger community through literacy!

Thank you,

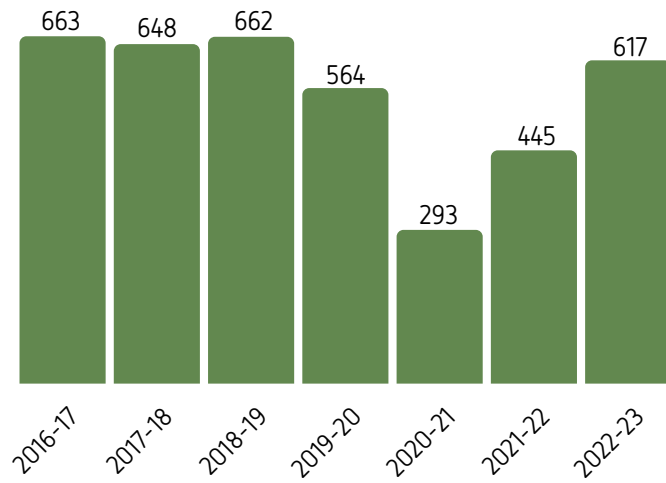
ERIC SPONHOLTZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We thank our 2022-23 corporate sponsors for their generosity and support of our work:



GROWTH



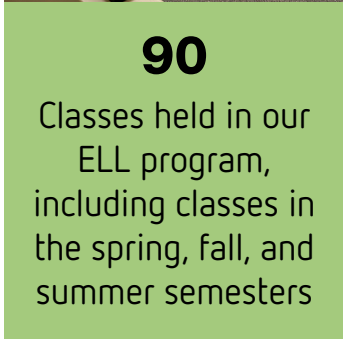



CONNECTION



Enrollment: Total Students Enrolled

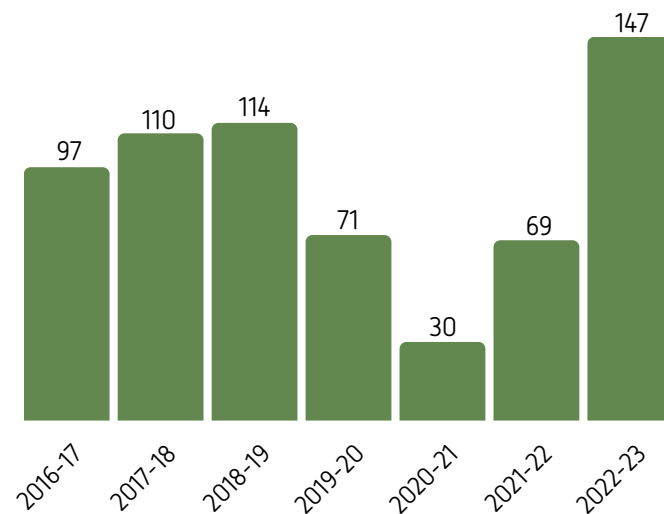
Numbers were at a historic low during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the past two years have seen a steady climb in attendance. As of September 2023 (not pictured), we have a waitlist for our English classes and tutoring program.

Year At A Glance

	4,000 Sq. ft of new space for more tutoring pairs and classes		6 Tutor trainings held, bringing in 49 new and returning tutors
	90 Classes held in our ELL program, including classes in the spring, fall, and summer semesters		6,862 Texts sent to and from students to improve attendance and increase communication
	7 Students earned their GEDs through our Family Literacy Program		22,170 Hours of student learning

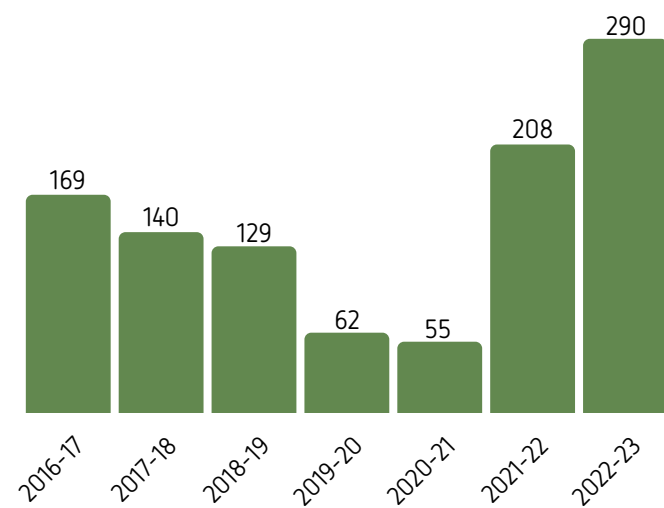
Attendance: Students with 75+ class hours

One of our goals this year was to tighten our focus: in addition to getting new students, we also worked on maintaining consistent attendance and building deeper connections with learners.



Achievement: Total Level Gains

We worked hard this year to update and modernize the curricula for all of our programs. This paid off in a big way! Our students' language skills increased more this year than ever before, as shown on our standardized testing.



Fostering Community

Our work would not be possible without the tireless dedication of our partner agencies, both here in Green Bay and throughout the state and the nation.



WHAT WE DO



English Language Learning (ELL) Classes

Our ELL classes focus on Brown County's highest need learners. We offer more than two dozen classes each semester at five levels, ranging from Literacy (students who cannot read or write in any language) to Level 2 (high beginner). Sessions are held in both the morning and the evening to better accommodate diverse schedules, and childcare is available to all learners. Once students complete Level 2 they can continue their studies at NWTC, which offers classes up to Level 6.

Family Literacy

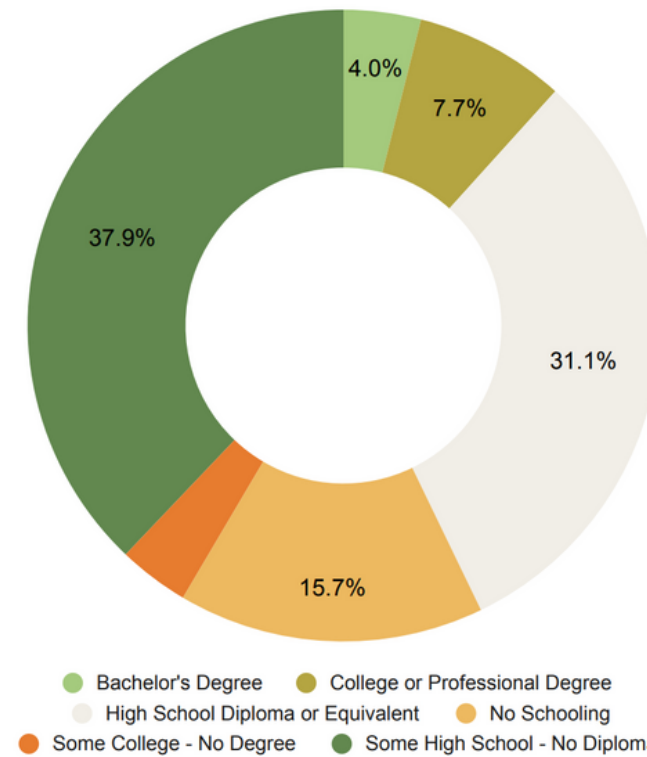
Our College and Career Readiness (CCR) and CFFL (Children First Family Literacy) programs assist learners in developing their academic skills in preparation for high school equivalency diplomas, the GED® test series, or other academic and career goals. Classes are offered on-site at Literacy Green Bay, and literacy-focused childcare is available to all learners.

Adult Tutoring

Literacy Green Bay offers one-on-one tutoring to learners in Brown County and the Greater Green Bay Area. Learners get to work one-on-one with a trained Literacy Green Bay tutor. Goals for tutoring are set by the learner, such as attending college classes, getting library cards or drivers licenses, getting better jobs, or reading with their children.

WHO WE SERVE

Students by Education Level*



Languages Spoken by Students



*All data, unless otherwise indicated, is for the 2022-2023 fiscal year (July 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023)

2022-23 EVENT SPONSORS



Our generous event sponsors enable us to host three large fundraising events each year: The Annual Award and Appreciation Breakfast, The Scrabble Bee, and the Literacy Green Bay Golf Outing.

Thank you to all of our 2023 sponsors:



10TH ANNUAL AWARD AND APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Literacy Partnership Award
Presented To: N-Tech Consulting
Presented By: Schreiber Foods



Irene Daniell Kress Literacy Advocate Award
Presented To: Sachin Shivaram
Presented By: George Kress Foundation



Volunteer of the Year Award
Presented To: Margi Kvitek
Presented By: Wisconsin Public Service Foundation



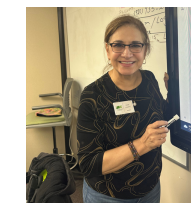
Outstanding Adult Learner
Presented To: Juan Salas
Presented By: Nicolet National Bank



Evie Jensen Spirit Award
Presented To: Thao Coopman
Presented By: JBS and UFCW Local 1473



Outstanding English Language Learner
Presented To: Brenda Chimal Gomez
Presented By: American Foods Group



Evie Jensen Spirit Award
Presented To: Bushra Alshakhly
Presented By: JBS and UFCW Local 1473



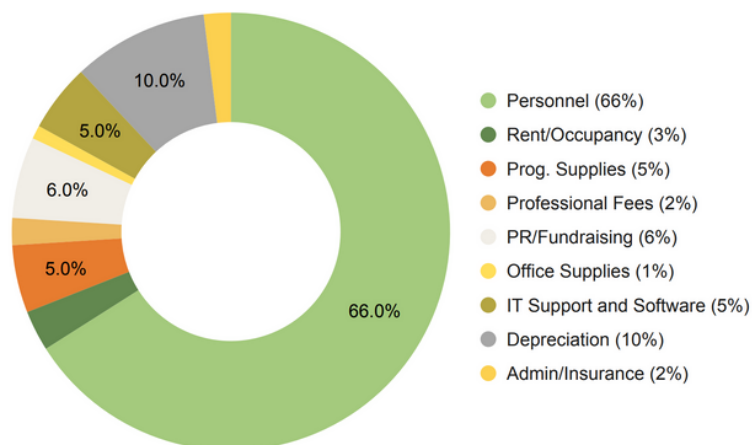
Outstanding Children First Family Literacy Graduate
Presented To: Kaleigh Haughton
Presented By: U.S. Venture



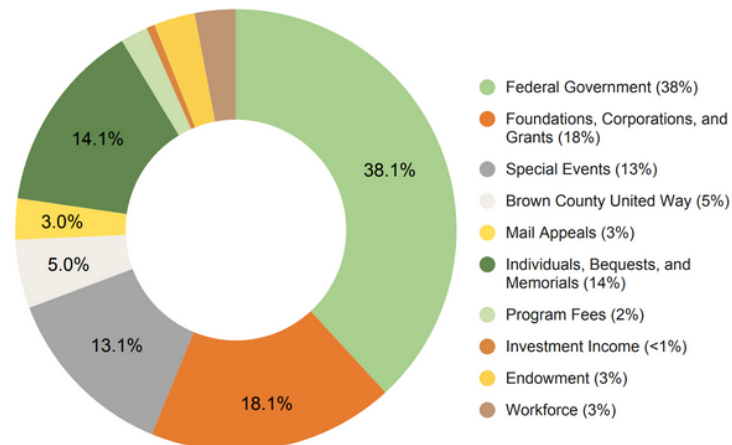
Lifetime of Literacy Award
Presented To: Jacqueline Staley
Presented By: Green Bay Packers Give Back

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Expenses



Revenue



Citizenship Winners

This year, the Green Bay Exchange Club honored two individuals for the accomplishment of becoming a United States citizen.



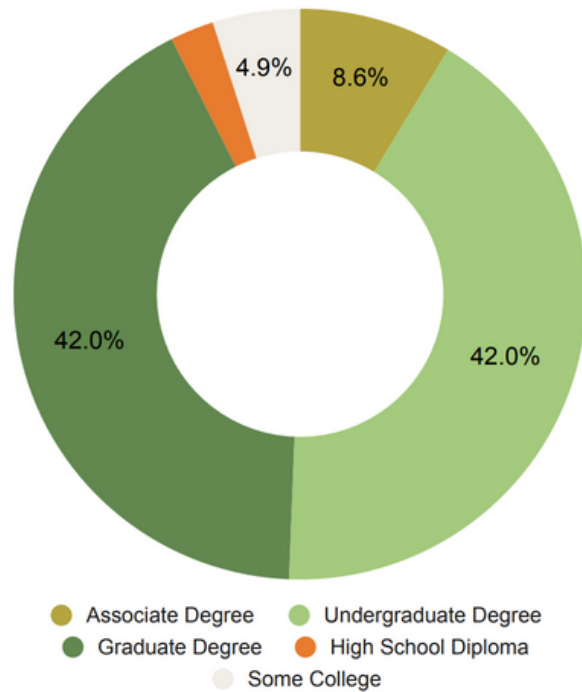
Patience Botkka Wane



Olivia Villalobos

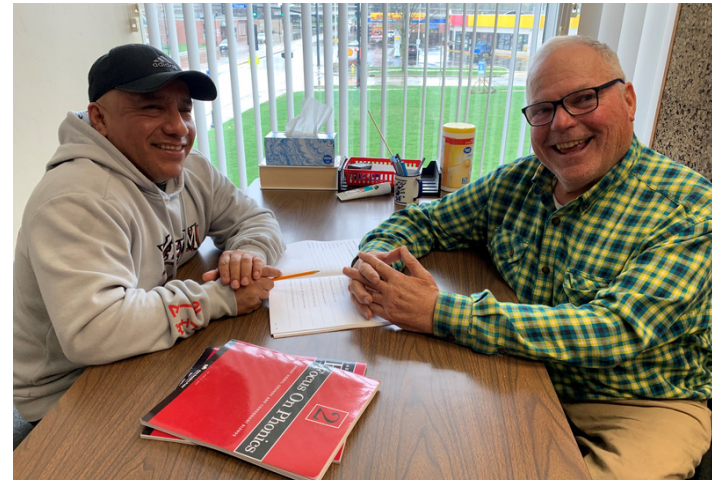
VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers by Education Level



Literacy Green Bay was founded by volunteers, and they're still an integral part of what we do. Most of our volunteers are tutors, but others serve on our board, evaluate new students, help in the office, do data entry, assist with graphic design and social media, assist in our classrooms and childcare, and much more.

Interested in becoming a volunteer yourself? Contact us for more information!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President: Travis Vanden Heuvel (KHROME)
Vice President: Sharena Ali (CONNECT, Powered by American Family Insurance)
Secretary: Mary Sue Lavin (UW-Green Bay)
Treasurer: Lori Fricke (PAi)

Retired Directors as of July 2023

Joe Burkard (KI)
 Amy Croel-Perrien (self-employed)
 Lori Mogan (Nicolet National Bank)
 William J. Peters, Jr. (City of Green Bay)
 Chuck Rybak (UW-Green Bay)

Directors

John Ehlinger (Quality Insulators, Inc.)
 Susie Brekke (World Relief Fox Valley)
 John Calewarts (Conway, Olejniczak & Jerry, S.C.)
 Nicole Goodacre (Bellin Health)
 Maria Gomez (Wells Fargo Bank)
 Sarah Griffiths (LOTUS Legal Clinic)
 Noah Jenquin (Lion's Mouth Bookstore)
 Todd McMahon (Festival Foods)
 Amber Paluch (Greater Green Bay Community Foundation)
 Melissa Van Gheem (Festival Foods)
 Sabrina Zerhouni (JBS Green Bay)

New Directors as of July 2023

Peter Froelich (Nicolet National Bank)
 Beau Liegeois (State of Wisconsin)

CURRENT STAFF

Eric Sponholtz
 Executive Director

Alexis Abel
 ELL Class Program Specialist
 Laura DeMeuse
 Intake Coordinator
 Samantha DeMoulin
 Office Coordinator
 Jason Gosseck
 PM Digital Literacy Instructor

Andrea Lopez Mendoza
 Adult Tutoring Program Specialist
 Liz Murphy
 Digital Literacy Coordinator/IT Administrator
 David Nohara
 ELL Class/Family Literacy Program Manager
 Sue Stackhouse
 Accountant

ELL Instructors and Childcare Providers: Bushra Alshakhly, Marci Angevine, Zoya Asmar, Colette Bernhard, Deb Bria, Elia Francisca Castillo Rivera, Candy Conard, Michael Davis, Jamie Hornberger, Carleen Jeanquart, Jonathan Kangas, Claude Lauzon, Rebecca Marsh, Emily Ritter, Stephanie Ruiz Fernandez, Dorothy Seehausen, Olga Lily Walters, Sarah Walters, Judy Ward, Lia Woo

IN MEMORY OF CAROL HAEN

Carol Haen

June 17, 1946 – May 30, 2022

In late 2022, we learned that our dear friend, Carol Lee Haen, who had passed away in May of that year, had left a portion of her estate to Literacy Green Bay.

Carol had long been an advocate of adult literacy and our mission at Literacy Green Bay. In 2005, long before she knew she would develop cancer, she created her will and, knowing the importance of English literacy for adult immigrants to our area, she named Literacy Green Bay as a benefactor.

We mourn the loss of Carol but rejoice that her legacy lives on in the students who benefit from her generosity. We thank Carol and her family for their enduring support of the mission of adult literacy.



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR AMAZING DONORS AND FOR EVERYONE WHO DONATED IN HONOR OF A LOVED ONE.

2022-23 DONORS

BENEFACTORS (\$5,000 and above)

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Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Georgia Pacific Foundation
Joseph and Sarah Van Drisse Charitable Trust
Rich and Sandy Olszewski Schreiber Foods
US Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation
Weyers Family Foundation
Wisconsin Literacy Inc.
Wisconsin Public Service Foundation
Mary Zaborski

PARTNERS (\$1,000 to \$4,999)

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Asbestos Removal Inc.
Bay Insulation Supply of Wisconsin
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Susie and Erik Brekke
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D&S Machine Service, Inc.
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Megan Grunwald
Hager, Dewick, and Zuengler, SC
Infinity Machine Engineering Corp.
JX Gives Back Family Foundation
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Luann and Peter Thomson
Neil Van Dyke and Lee Prange
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Wisconsin Aluminum Foundry Co.
Karen Wojahn
Women for Good
William and Roseanne Wright

CHAMPIONS (\$500 to \$999)

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VanVonderen Welsh Charitable Fund
Volunteer Center of Brown County
Marc and Jennifer Von Der Ruhr
Clifford Wall
Ryan Watling
Bob Webb
Nan Williams
Wisconsin Pay Specialists
Anita Zipperer

**ADVOCATES
(\$100 to \$499)**

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Julie Arneth
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Ruben Augustin
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Elizabeth Herlache
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Shanna Willems
Steve and Sharon Wilmet
Steven Wilson
Charles and Kit Woessner III
Sabrina Zerhouni

Donations in Memory and Honor of Loved Ones

Marc Balester in honor of The Staff of Cherry Optical Lab in GB
Elaine Bond in honor of Donald and Melody Busack
Mary Braband in memory of Marie Fonder
Paula Buntin in honor of Drew Vander Perren
Kenneth and Jeanne Calewarts in memory of Mary Schmutzler
Barbara Derenne in memory of Marie Fonder
Finance Group in honor of GRAEF's Clients and Friends
Elizabeth Foley in memory of Patricia Tweet
Elizabeth Herlache in memory of Patricia Tweet
Gilmore and Barbara Hoffman in memory of Patricia Tweet
Richard and Ellen Horak in memory of Patricia Tweet
MaryGay Hornseth in memory of Patricia Tweet
Jeanne Kamperschroer in memory of Marie Fonder
Law Firm of Conway, Olejniczak and Jerry, SC in memory of Patricia Tweet
Wayne Lubner in memory of Patricia Tweet
Brady McDonald in memory of Patricia Tweet
Dan Powers in memory of Patricia Tweet
Tori Rader in memory of Dennis Wojahn
Paul Schneider in memory of Patricia Tweet
Pam Stinson in memory of Robert Rader
Shawna Stueck in memory of Jean Stein
Adam Waggoner in memory of Debra Anderson
Kathleen Weber in memory of Patricia Tweet
Erica Ziegler in memory of Patricia Tweet

WHAT HAS LITERACY GREEN BAY MEANT TO YOU?



"I think literacy is very important to me because I did not know English but now I am trying."

JOHN



"It has helped me a lot because every day I learn something new and I want to continue learning to put it into practice every day."

ZEYDI



"Literacy Green Bay has helped me to comprehend important documents to make sure I can make the best decisions."

AGUSTIN

"I feel more independent because I'm more confident in my ability to communicate in English."

MARIA



"This program helps many Hispanic people to have a better life in the United States. In short, it is a privilege to belong to Literacy Green Bay."

IRIS

"I have been able to help my family, especially my children, by shaping their education and studies."

GLORIA