



LITERACY
SERVICES
of INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

2018 ANNUAL REPORT





ONE PAGE, ONE BOOK, ONE LIFE AT A TIME.

Literacy Services of Indian River County, Inc., is a nonprofit United Way agency partner. We were founded in 1971 and incorporated in 1975.

MISSION

Provide quality literacy tutoring to local adults so they and their family can become more contributing members of the community because of improved literacy skills.

VISION

End generational illiteracy in Indian River County.

Leadership

Jessica Schmitt
Executive Director

Anali Vieyra
Tutor Trainer

Elida Gomez
North County
Coordinator

Honorary Board Members

Judge David Morgan
Larry Reisman

Board of Directors

Michelle N. Servos
President

Sven Frisell
Vice President

Melissa Medlock
Treasurer

Katy Healy

Kent Jones

Donna Remsnyder

Diana Walker



→ Dear Friends of Literacy Services,

I have had the honor of serving as Board President for two years. Throughout that time, I have been encouraged and amazed by the dedication and vision of our volunteer tutors, students, staff, community partners, and supporters. Literacy Services empowers members of our community every day through the work of incredible individuals who believe in investing in the literacy of our adult family members, neighbors, parents, coworkers, and residents.

Over the past year Literacy Services has increased its public awareness and presence through an improved website, more public announcements, a weekly emailed tutor tip and update, and increased community partnerships. By empowering tutors and students and being creative in our approach to teaching and learning, we are building stronger families and a better community.

The entire Board of Directors is committed to moving Literacy Services forward and increasing the positive impact we are having in Indian River County. As always, we welcome your input and remain grateful for your involvement.

Thank you for all your continued support and friendship.

Very truly yours,

Michelle N. Servos
Board President

2017-2018 FISCAL YEAR

Operating Overview*

Literacy Services operated a budget of \$236,267. Nearly 77% went to programs, including quality, ongoing training of volunteer tutors and vital curriculum supplies. More than \$115,000 was raised through individual's contributions and \$51,500 was received in grants. Net assets at end of year totaled \$232,988.



→ Dear Friends of Literacy Services

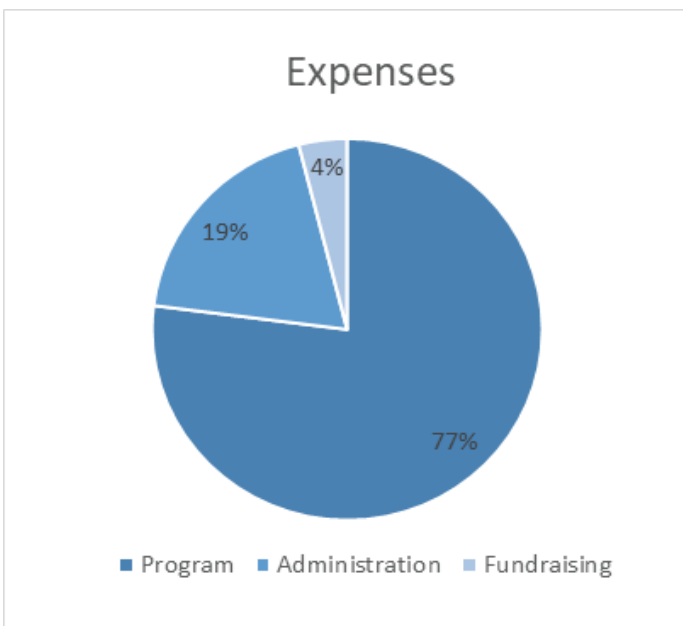
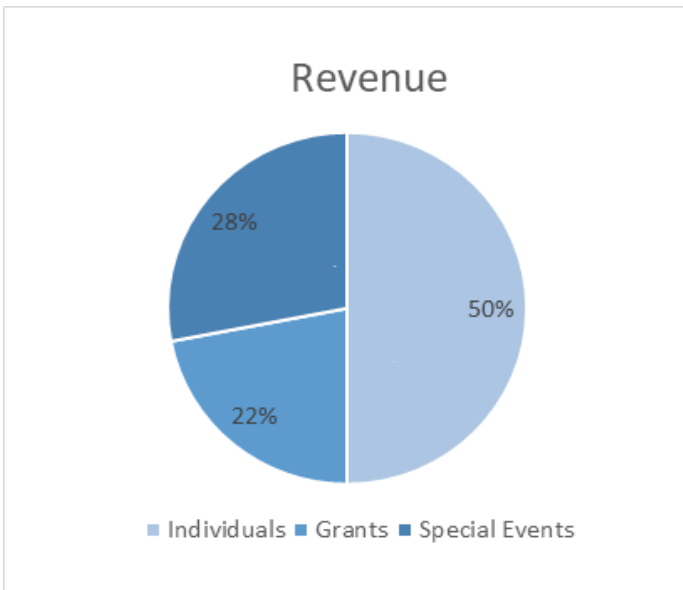
With nearly a year as Executive Director, I have learned so much and continue to be excited for the future of the organization and the students we serve. It would not be possible without the commitment of our donors and tutors. We are so grateful for each of you.

The dedication of our students is a testament of their gratitude for your time, talent and treasure. While our students have different backgrounds and personal goals, they all have a desire to succeed. With the help of their tutors, our students are quite successful. They obtain jobs, get promotions and open businesses with their stronger skill set. They are more engaged with their child's education which has a ripple effect on that child's success rate at school. Together we are building a community of readers.

It is incredibly rewarding to see someone set a goal, achieve it and then dream bigger. Literacy Services is also dreaming bigger. We are working to eliminate our waiting list and expand our workplace tutoring program. We are collaborating with local agencies to create expanded opportunities for learning. The future is bright and the potential is unlimited.

We thank you for your continued belief in our mission and appreciate your support. You are making a difference one page, one book, one life at a time.

Sincerely,
Jessica Schmitt
 Executive Director



*Audited financials provided upon request.



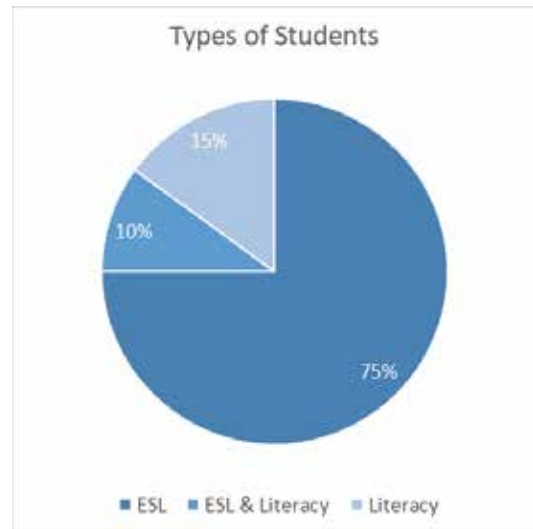
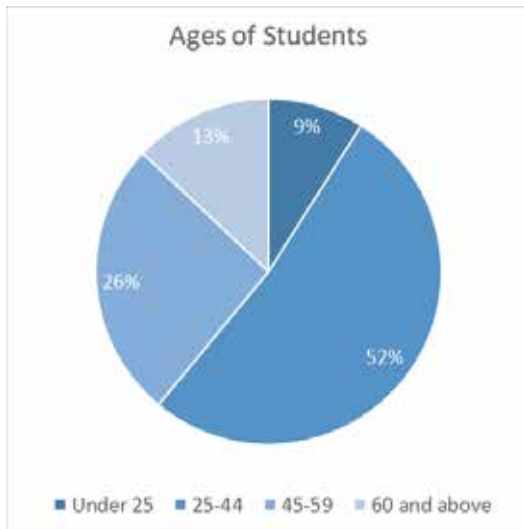
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DEMOGRAPHICS

Our 295 students represented 27 countries and the United States this past year.

Nearly 80% of students were female.

Fifty-nine percent of students were employed but 67% were living at the poverty level.



GOALS ACHIEVED

By Our Students Last Year

- 227 reading levels advanced
- 144 improved their communication skills
- 56 became more engaged in their child's education
- 62 improved their writing skills
- 114 improved a job situation or a skill to obtain a job
- 13 acquired their driver's license
- 23 started college, trade school or Adult Ed courses
- 43 improved their financial literacy and 30 improved their health literacy
- 13 became United States Citizens
- 26 can now use a computer
- 13 are now actively volunteering



Literacy Services is proud to partner with local businesses to provide tutoring in the workplace. These daycare workers are studying English to communicate with parents, read to children and participate in a credential program. This sets everyone up for success!

Wendy struggled to make ends meet working as a cleaner in a local market. A native of Venezuela, she began working with her tutor, Jack, a year ago. She now has a better job at Target where her improved language skills are paying off. Wendy is involved in her daughters' education, has opened a bank account and hopes to pay it forward when she finishes her English studies!

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Larry dreamed of becoming a chef but could not read the recipes. Instead, he worked as a dishwasher. He began working diligently with his tutor, Jon, and has been promoted in the kitchen. As he has improved his literacy skills, Larry has been able to help his son who was struggling in school. Both generations are reading and learning together!



DID YOU KNOW?

One out of five adults in Indian River County has substandard literacy skills and 13.5% of local households use a primary language other than English.

Children with parents having low literacy skills are more than three times as likely to drop out of high school compared to those with literate parents.

Employees with limited literacy skills cost businesses and taxpayers billions annually in lost wages, profits and productivity.

It costs approximately \$500 to serve one student. There is a waiting list and we are actively working to recruit more tutors.



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FRIENDS OF LITERACY

Our Friends of Literacy are those donors who generously contribute \$500 or more to Literacy Services each fiscal year. Gifts at this level can include one-time donations or many gifts a donor makes throughout the year, including events.

The support from all of our donors, especially our Friends, is vital to our mission.

Become a Friend
of Literacy,
please call
772-778-2223

Individuals *

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Beardslee
Mr. and Mrs. John Bessey
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Bromwell
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Covill
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Cramb
Mr. and Mrs. John Curley
Mr. and Mrs. David O. Danis
Mr. and Mrs. Rene Donars
The Endicott Family
Mr. Herb Fitz Gibbon
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Fuller
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Graybill
Mr. and Mrs. George Higgs
Ms. Nat Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kinney
Ms. Martha Lemasters
Ms. Wanda Lincoln
Ms. Alma Lee Loy
Mr. and Mrs. Don Mann
Ms. Kathryn Moss
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Peters
Ms. Shirley Powers
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Stein
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Mr. and Mrs. Byron Sugahara
Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff Sutton
Ms. Roberta Titelman
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Kent Whittaker
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Zunk

Businesses

CenterState Bank
Colton, Williams & Reamy, CPAs
Comfort Zone A/C & Heating of FL
Dale Sorensen Real Estate
George E. Warren Corporation
Melissa M. Medlock, CPA
Seacoast Bank
Tuttle Law, P.A.
United Juice Company
Walmart Sebastian
Windsor Properties

Grants and Foundations

Bernard A. Egan Foundation
Camp-Younts Foundation
The Corrigan - Goddard Foundation
Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Fellsmere Frog Leg Foundation
Four-Four Foundation
Grand Harbor Community Outreach Program
Indian River Community Foundation
J.M. Hopwood Charitable Trust
John's Island Community Service League
The Kahle Foundation
The Robert F. & Eleonora W. McCabe Foundation
Ryan Family Foundation
SAD Foundation
Syde Hurdus Foundation Inc.
United Way of Indian River County

Organizations

GFWC Treasure Coast Women
Presbyterian Women

*Thanks to our anonymous donors



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Your tax-deductible donation is always appreciated and vital to the program's success. You can donate online at www.literacyservicesirc.org or by mailing a check made out to Literacy Services of Indian River County to: 1600 21st Street, Vero Beach 32960.
- Monthly donations are welcomed and can also be set up online.
- Volunteer! Tutor, serve on a committee or help in the office.
- Read to someone in your life and help build a community of readers.

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/4literacyservices/>

Sign up for e-newsletter

www.literacyservicesirc.org





Literacy Services of Indian River County, Inc.

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Vero Beach, FL 32960

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Sebastian, FL 32958

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**United Way of
Indian River County**

