



Literacy Together

Transforming Lives And Communities
Through The Power Of Literacy



ANNUAL
REPORT
2025



Amanda Wrublewski
Executive Director
828-254-3442 ext.205
amanda@lit-together.org

In a time of profound transformation for our region, our spirit has been tested in ways we never imagined. In the wake of Tropical Storm Helene, we saw firsthand that literacy is far more than opening a book to pass the time; it is the vital thread that connects us to every part of our world. It is the ability to navigate emergency resources in a crisis, to advocate for our children in their classrooms, and to safely understand the instructions on a pill bottle. Literacy is, quite literally, the foundation of agency and survival.

The brilliance of our learners across every generation, the selfless dedication of our volunteers, and the empathy of our supporters have built a powerhouse of community from within our walls. This circle of more than 8,000 people is a testament to what happens when we choose to believe and invest in one another – and also in ourselves.

Our path forward is clear, and our work has never been more fundamental. We remain steadfast in fostering a community where every voice is heard and valued, every literacy goal is within reach, and every individual has the opportunity to thrive. Guided by the strength of this 8,000-strong circle, I am inspired knowing that we won't just navigate the future together – we will define it.

Let's keep building. Let's keep connecting. Let's keep moving forward, together.

In partnership and community,

Amanda Wrublewski

OUR IMPACT

TOTALS

24,009 hours of instruction to students
Training and support to 351 tutors

Intensive tutoring to 490 students
Service to a total of 7,349 individuals

YOUTH LITERACY

The Youth Literacy Program improves the academic achievement of youth (K-12) who read below grade level by utilizing volunteer tutors and paid interns to provide free, one-on-one instruction in reading, writing, spelling, and math. High school students participating in the internship are also provided with professional development workshops throughout the year, including sessions on financial literacy, career readiness, and leadership development.

185 students received free tutoring support

92 tutors (volunteers and interns) provided **4,349** hours of tutoring instruction

ADULT LITERACY

The Adult Literacy Program provides free one-on-one instruction to English speakers whose reading, writing, spelling, or math skills are below a basic skills level. Students enroll because they want to build foundational literacy skills, improve job prospects, help their children in school, enroll in a high school equivalency program, and better navigate the world around them.

50 students received individualized tutoring support

40 trained volunteer tutors provided a combined **2,406** hours of tutoring instruction

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program provides free English language instruction to adults who wish to remove barriers to employment and improve the economic mobility of their families, help their children in school, become U.S. citizens, and learn to navigate the healthcare system.

255 students received intensive English language instruction

219 trained volunteer tutors provided a combined **17,254** hours of tutoring instruction

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY®

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mails a free, high-quality book every month to children under the age of five to build a home library and ignite a love of reading.



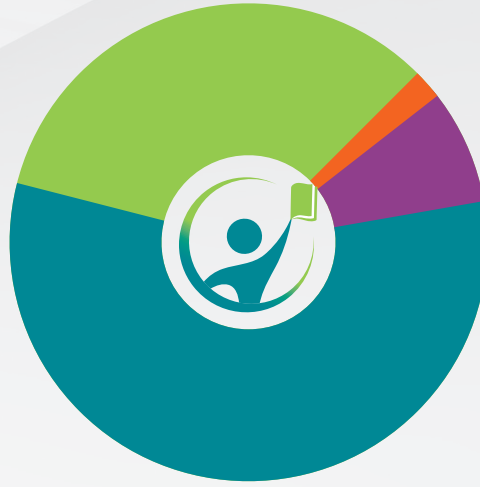
6,859 children under the age of five received free books



THE NUMBERS

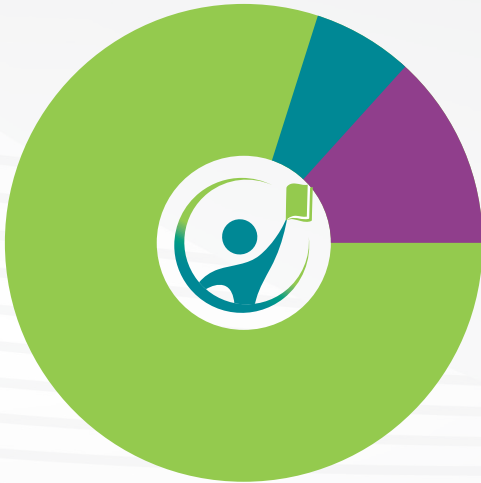
Total Revenue: \$710,539

- Grants: **\$374,283**
- Individual & Corporate: **\$275,656**
- Fundraising Events: **\$51,305**
- Other: **\$9,295**



*Total Revenue in audited financial statements is \$1,083,494, which includes \$325,000 of grants restricted to use in future years and \$47,955 of collected pledges receivable in future years.

79% of expenses go directly to program services



Total Expenses: \$618,736

- Program Activities: **\$487,013**
- General/Admin: **\$47,375**
- Fundraising: **\$84,348**

OF NOTE:
 Charity Navigator 100/100
 Guidestar Platinum Seal of Transparency
 Living Wage Pledged
 ProLiteracy Member

“When I learned of my diagnosis of dyslexia, it felt like the end of the world. But it was really just the beginning of a new one.”
Adult Literacy Student
working toward his high school equivalency diploma

Volunteers contributed a total value of \$1,029,186 in volunteer hours



THE TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Becky Stone
Vice-Chair: Debbie Motz Bryenton
Secretary: Jason Hyatt
Treasurer: Ben Fehsenfeld
Member at Large: Susan Perone
Megan Banks
Ellen Bowditch
Trevor Drake
Marshall Fisher
Joselyne Gago
Aimee Kling
Page McCorkle

STAFF

Amanda Wrublewski, Executive Director
Erin Sebelius, ESOL Senior Program Director
Gigi Cambero, ESOL Associate
Irina Khasanova, ESOL Specialist
Rebecca Massey, Adult Literacy Program Director
Elyse Hurley, Youth Literacy Program Director
Tiffany Grimme, Finance & Operations Manager
and Youth Literacy Program Associate
Anne Vilen, Outreach & Communications Coordinator
Linda Murphey, Grants & Development Manager

THE FUNDERS

Beattie Foundation
Buncombe County
Buckingham Strategic Wealth
CareSource Foundation
City of Asheville
Community Foundation of WNC
Consuelo's Fund
Dogwood Health Trust
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Gardner Family Foundation
Glass Foundation
Henri Landwirth Family Fund
Herlin Family Fund
Junior League of Asheville
North Carolina Community College System
Pisgah Investments Foundation
Sisters of Mercy of NC
TD Charitable Foundation
Truist Foundation
WNC Bridge Foundation

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsor

Pisgah Investments Foundation

Platinum Sponsors

Lewis Real Estate
Hunter Subaru
Raymond Carolina Handling
Aeroflow Health

Gold Sponsors

Novant Health
Heartwood Realty
Mills Manufacturing
Morgan Stanley
TD Bank

Silver Sponsors

AmeriHealth Caritas
Champion Credit Union
Hedrick Industries

Bronze Sponsors

Blue Ridge Public Radio
Haakon Industries
Concrete Cowboy Solutions
RYSE Construction
Landmark Landscapes
Black Orthodontics

PROGRAM PARTNERS

A-B Tech Community College
Asheville City & Buncombe County Schools
Buncombe Partnership for Children
Christine W. Avery Learning Center (CWA)
Goodwill Industries
Helping at Risk Kids (HARK)
YMCA's Horizons Program
Youth Transformed for Life (YTL)

MISSION

To transform lives and communities through the power of literacy

VISION

A just and equitable community in which literacy is accessible and achievable by all

Your partnership
and support
transforms our
community.



DONATE TODAY!