



A community where literacy is attainable for everyone.

2018 Annual Report

LITERACY COUNCIL FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

EMPOWERING ADULTS THROUGH ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS

110 East Patrick Street | Frederick MD 21701 | www.frederickliteracy.org | info@frederickliteracy.org | 301-600-2066

Council Adopts New Strategic Plan

The Literacy Council has adopted a new Strategic Plan to guide the organization through 2021. The plan, created by the LCFC Board of Directors, resulted in the development of the following principles:

Mission

The Literacy Council of Frederick County teaches adults the reading and other English language skills they need to provide for their families and to contribute to the well-being and prosperity of our community.

Values

- Sustaining our organization through responsible financial stewardship, sound management, and community engagement
- Teaching a parent in order to educate a family
- Educating our students in a learner-centered format with compassion, confidentiality, and respect
- Producing a safer, healthier, economically stronger, and more vibrant community through adult literacy
- Sustaining, empowering, and energizing a passionate, strong, dedicated volunteer base

Vision

A community where literacy is attainable for everyone.



Ken Oldham, President and CEO, United Way of Frederick County is seen giving a ceremonial check to Erin Jackson, LCFC volunteer and Grants Committee member, and Catherine Cox, President, LCFC Board of Directors.

Literacy Council Receives United Way Community Impact Grant

The Literacy Council is honored to have been selected as a Community Impact Partner by the United Way of Frederick County. Partners were chosen based on their fit with the United Way's funding priorities: health, education, and financial stability for families that struggle to afford basic costs of living. The Literacy Council, of course, is an educational organization, but United Way also recognized that the English language skills our adult students attain are a major factor in creating financial stability for their families. With the 3-year grant that this partnership

brings, the Literacy Council will be able to expand our workplace English program to help workers learn the English they need to succeed and advance in their jobs. The grant also enables the Literacy Council to implement a new project to directly reach parents with limited reading or English language proficiency who have young children served by Frederick County Public Schools' Judy Center and two Title I elementary schools. The goal of the initiative is to improve family literacy skills and parents' engagement with their children's education.

The Literacy Council provides the following programs and services
Basic Literacy | English as a Second Language | Workplace Literacy
Citizenship | Prison Literacy | Health, Math & Computer Literacy
Writing, Conversation & Pronunciation Classes

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& In-Service Coordinator*

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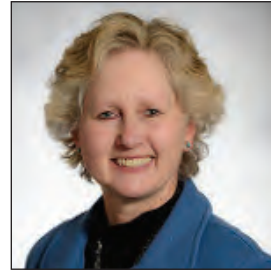
Freida Pryor
Volunteer Materials Coordinator

Laurie Fisher
Executive Director

Jennifer Szabo
Program Manager



Catherine Cox
President, Board of Directors



Laurie Fisher
Executive Director

A Message of Growth and Gratitude

We hope you'll enjoy this account of some of our accomplishments during the past year – the Literacy Council's 55th! While our tutors continued to tutor individual adults in reading and writing or speaking English, we found new ways to reach more of the thousands of adults in Frederick County who need our help.

With every year that passes, being able to read and write and to speak English becomes more important in the home, community, our schools, and in the workplace. We know from experience that acquiring these skills changes our students' lives forever. And as our students grow in confidence and prosperity, their accomplishments benefit all of us. A more literate, English-speaking population contributes to the prosperity and civic life of the whole community.

We are grateful beyond words to all the people who make this possible – our wonderful tutors and other volunteers, and our generous donors and supporters. Together, we are changing the world, one life at a time.

216 adult learners

worked one-on-one with Literacy Council tutors, improving the skills they needed for work, school, and family life

89 adult learners expanded their capacities

and their horizons – by attending our classes in beginning literacy, conversation, pronunciation, writing, computer literacy, and civics

6 restaurant employees

gained new English language job-related skills in our workplace literacy program

28 adult learners contributed written work

for the first edition of the Literacy Council's new literary journal, *Reflections – Voices of English Learners*

Welcome New Board Members!



Darrell Batson



Carmen Hernandez



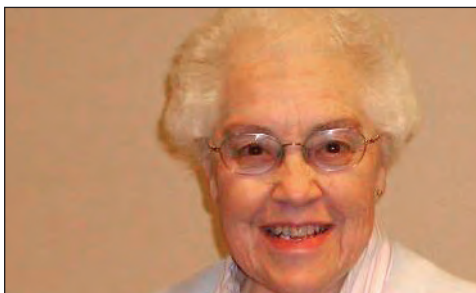
Karen Richey



Niki Thrash

Please welcome our new board members, who individually and collectively bring a wealth of professional experience and leadership in the Frederick County community. Darrell Batson is the retired Director of Frederick County Public Libraries. Carmen Hernandez is a physician. Karen Richey is experienced in communications and graphic design. Niki Thrash is experienced in non-profit communications and development.

Remembering Elizabeth Derr & Joyce Routzahn Holiday Book Drive



Elizabeth Derr

The Literacy Council's volunteer and dear friend Elizabeth Derr died on July 14, 2018. Elizabeth was a tutor, but was best known for her quiet and efficient way of keeping the LCFC office organized and open. For almost three decades she ordered and organized all of our teaching materials and supplies. If you needed anything, she was the one to go to. In the years before we had any staff, Elizabeth trained many volunteer office staffers and signed up countless new tutors and students. In 2011, she was the recipient of our highest honor, given only occasionally: the Elizabeth H. Seligmann Award for sustained and significant contributions to the Literacy Council.

Long-time Literacy Council volunteer and all-around remarkable woman Joyce Routzahn died on June 13, 2018, at the age of 88. She had been volunteering with

the Literacy Council for 42 years, taught more adult learners than she could count, and was still tutoring a student only a few months before her death. She also trained hundreds of new tutors and conducted training workshops for literacy councils in three states. Joyce had exceptional knowledge and skills, but perhaps most outstanding was her cheerful, positive outlook. Each student, group of new tutors, or situation presented a new challenge – an opportunity and a learning experience – and her enthusiasm was infectious.



Joyce Routzahn

The Literacy Council of Frederick County partnered with Curious Iguana and Barnes & Noble Booksellers for the benefit of Blessings in a Backpack (BIAB) to provide new books for pre K – 6th grade children. BIAB provides weekend backpacks of food to the more than 2,500 children in 17 Frederick County schools who depend on school meals as their primary source of nourishment during the week. Donated gift books in holiday wrapping were included in these backpacks before the winter break. While the Literacy Council serves adult literacy needs, providing appealing, age-appropriate books to children fosters literacy at a young age and helps to break the cycle of illiteracy in families.

Now in its 12th year, in the past our Holiday Book Drive provided books for other local agencies including Head Start, the YMCA's Early Learning Center, Toys for Tots, Advocates for Homeless Families, and Children of Incarcerated Parents (COIP).



Play Ball!

The Literacy Council was acknowledged at a Frederick Keys game. On behalf of the organization, LCFC Program Manager, Jennifer Szabo's son, Zach threw out the first pitch!



Students and volunteer tutors were recognized for their achievements at the Fifth Annual Celebration of Achievements on June 11, 2018.

2018 Fifth Annual Celebration of Achievements Coincides With 55th Anniversary of Organization

On June 11, 2018 the Literacy Council celebrated the many accomplishments of its students and tutors at the Fifth Annual Celebration of Achievements event, sponsored by Frederick County Bank. Students received awards for achievements such as becoming a U.S. citizen, passing the test for a Maryland driver's license, volunteering in a school or other community organization, and improving English language skills in order to obtain a better job.



Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner opened the Celebration by thanking the Literacy Council for its 55 years of service to the community and declaring June 11 "Literacy Council of Frederick County Day."

The Celebration featured Jinjin Cai, who read the story she had written for the Literacy Council's new literary journal, *Reflections – Voices of English Learners*, which will be debuted this fall.



Jinjin's grandmother was proud when her granddaughter passed the entrance exam for college. Now the little girl who learned Chinese characters with her is becoming literate in English as well.



Marianne Dacey received the *Elizabeth H. Seligmann Award*, awarded to volunteers for sustained and significant contributions furthering the goals of the Literacy Council. Marianne has been a tutor for 15 years and a mainstay of the tutor training team for nearly that long. She partnered with tutor Denise Dertzbaugh to design and teach the English language workplace program at local restaurants, and designed and teaches civics classes for our students.



Ric Adams (left) of the LCFC Board of Directors presented the *Business & Industry Partners in Literacy Award* to Frederick County Bank to (now retired) FCB President Marty Lapera, as AVP Community Development Linda Roth, and SVP Retail Integration, Chief Marketing Officer Cathy Alexander look on.



Rich Haney (left), VP of the LCFC Board of Directors, presented the *Business & Industry Partners in Literacy Award* to Frank Blanchard, Director of Public Affairs & Communications for Leidos Biomedical Research, Inc.

2017-2018 Donors

Thank You! We Couldn't Have Done It Without You!

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Leidos Biomedical Research, Inc.*
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Sandy Spring Bank*
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The F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company*
The Frederick News-Post*

Foundations, Trusts & Grants

Delaplaine Foundation, Inc.
Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Inc.
Frederick County Government
Husky Fund of New Market, MD
Jean Joyce Family Trust
Liberty Mutual Foundation
ProLiteracy – National Book Fund Grant
State Farm Companies Foundation
The Community Foundation of Frederick County
The Helen J. Serini Foundation
The Nora Roberts Foundation
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Rotary Club of Frederick
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Uncle Ralph's Cookies
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* Event Sponsors

Gifts Made in Honor or in Memory of Others

Joyce Anderson	In memory of Joyce Routzahn
Alice Brouillet	In memory of Joyce Routzahn
Dr. & Mrs. Carroll Doggett	In honor of Sandra Doggett
Sandra Doggett	In memory of Joyce Routzahn
Paul & Frances Eaves	In memory of Joyce Routzahn
Caroline & Joel Gaver	In memory of Joyce Routzahn
John George	In memory of Joyce Routzahn
Ruth Hanson	In honor of the volunteers
Robert & Linda Hundertmark	In honor of Laurie Fisher's Birthday
Claire & John Kondig	In memory of Patricia "Patty" Brown
Virginia Mohler	In memory of Joyce Routzahn
Jane Talarico & Michael Paskowsky	In memory of Nicholas T. Paskowsky
WLR Automotive Group	In honor of The Frederick News-Post for contributions made to the community

Make a Contribution is To Our Community's Future

Create your legacy by giving the Gift of Literacy. Consider making a gift to the Betty Seligmann Literacy Endowment Fund through The Community Foundation of Frederick County. Betty Seligmann's impact on Frederick County through the Literacy Council was immense. She worked as a tutor, trainer, board president, and program coordinator. Thank you to all of our supporters who have made a financial gift to this fund.

Who We Served 2017-2018

Basic Literacy Adult Learners: 17
 English as a Second Language (ESL)
 Adult Learners: 245

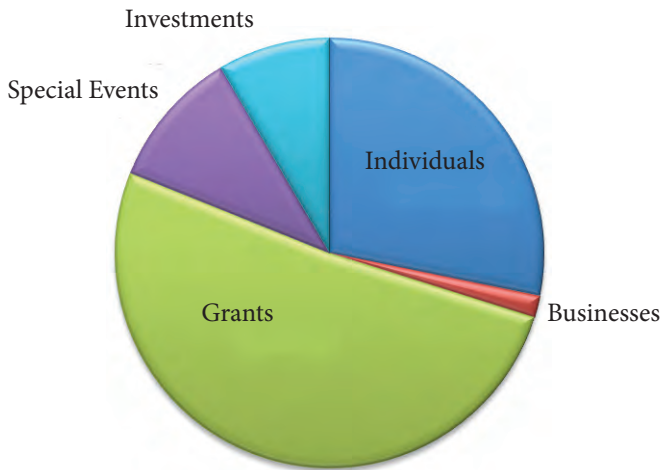
Growth in Volunteers & Students 2010-2018

98-162 volunteers (65%)
 116-262 students (126%)

All Literacy Council direct services are provided by volunteers. Our 162 volunteers contributed over 17,670 hours of their time, equaling approximately 442 40-hour work weeks, equating to a monetary value of \$436,272 (based on a standardized hourly rate of \$24.69).

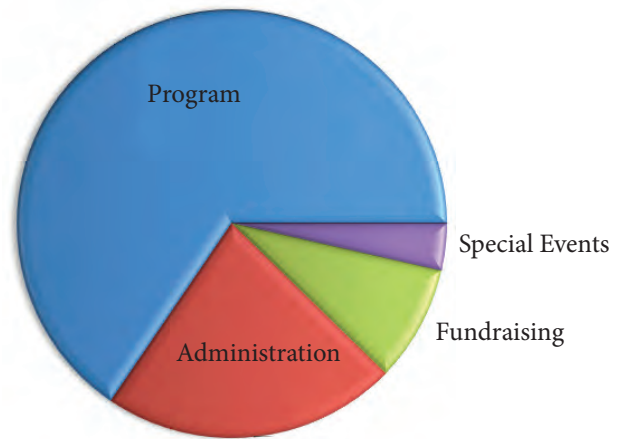
2017-2018 Finances

Revenue - \$125,598



Donations	Amount
Individuals	\$35,376
Businesses	\$2,080
Grants	\$64,381
Special Events	\$13,129
Investments	\$10,632
Total	\$125,598

Expenses - \$123,134



Expense	Amount
Program	\$80,663
Administration	\$27,359
Fundraising	\$10,766
Special Events	\$4,346
Total	\$123,134