

Literacy *lifts* Lives



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

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Reflections Voices of English Learners

*A literary magazine written by students
of the Literacy Council of Frederick County.*

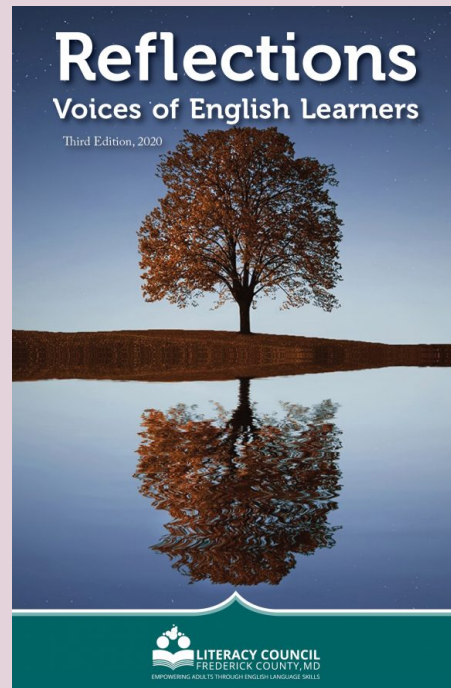
Literacy lifts Lives

Reflections Literary Magazine Features Inspirational Student Writing

Adult learners, volunteer tutors, members of the Board of Directors, and the community gathered for a virtual “Book Launch” on December 10th to celebrate the **Third Edition (2020) publication** of the Literacy Council of Frederick County’s inspiring literary magazine, *Reflections: Voices of English Learners*, featuring stories written by students.

Jim Grissom, President of the Board of Directors, gave his opening remarks, recalling the year’s unprecedented times and the great achievements of our students and tutors despite the difficult year. **Executive Director Laurie Fisher and past President Catherine Cox** co-hosted the event. **Co-editor of the magazine, Catherine Coundjeris**, shared the genesis of the magazine and introduced six of the 20 contributing authors who read their work online from the third edition of *Reflections*.

[Learn More](#)



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LEARNER Spotlight



We Invite You to Meet Our First "Learner Spotlight," Jacqueline

My name is Jacqueline. I'm from Syria where I worked as a physician internist, for about 35 years. My husband and I moved to the U.S.A. because of the war, 5 years ago.



I learned the English language in school. I could read, write, but I could not speak the language, nor understand many essential daily concepts, so I was frustrated. Now after attending different classes at the Literacy Council I first attained my driver's license and also gained so much more so that I can immerse myself in my new community.

Read Jacqueline's story **Understanding Homelessness** from *Reflections...*

[Learn More](#)

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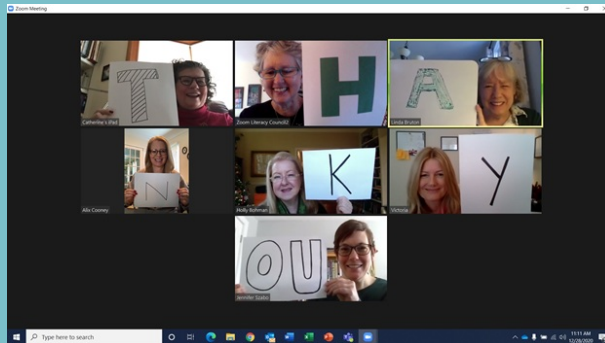
VOLUNTEER Spotlight



Basic Literacy & ESL Coordinators Provide Critical Support

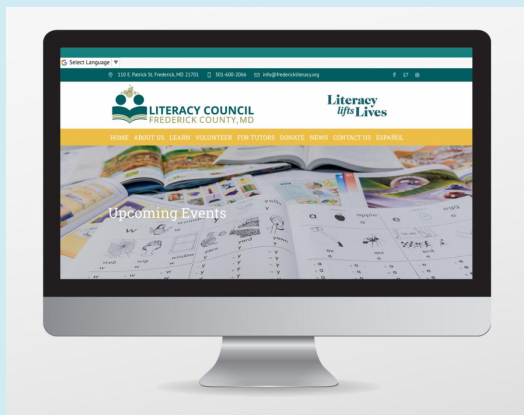
Tutoring is one of our core programs, matching volunteer tutors with adult learners who are seeking help to improve their English language or reading skills.

This month's Volunteer Spotlight recognizes our four volunteer coordinators **Holly Bohman**, **Lynn Bruton**, **Alix Cooney** and **Catherine Coundjeris** who dedicate countless hours each week to helping new and current students and tutors.



[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Events at the Literacy Council



- **Volunteer Information Session**
February 1, 2021 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
February 8, 2021 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Register online [HERE](#)

- **Tutor Training Workshop***
February 16, 18, 23 & 25, 7-9 pm

****Attendance of a Volunteer Information Session is required prior to registering for a Tutor Training Workshop***

- **Student Class Schedule**
Winter Classes - In Session
Spring Classes - Registration opens in March!

Adults inquiring about participating in our tutoring or classes, contact:
info@frederickliteracy.org.

Due to the current restrictions in place, sessions are being conducted online via Zoom or other online communications platforms.

- **2021 Unity Campaign**
March 10-21, 2021

Coming this spring!

The [Unity Campaign](#) has been critical to expanding our programs over the last six years. It helps raise the financial support necessary to provide our literacy programs by offering an efficient and community-wide platform to raise awareness and much-needed funds for our Basic Literacy (native English speakers) and English as a Second Language programs.

[Learn More / Make A Donation](#)



Millions of children have never
been read a bedtime story.



The single greatest indicator of a child's future
success is the literacy level of the parents.

36 million adults in America struggle to read. They need your help. ProLiteracy is a national nonprofit whose mission is to help adults learn to read. We develop materials and programs for over 1,000 literacy member programs across the country. Adults who can read and write are more likely to be involved in educating their children. Literacy changes lives.

VOLUNTEER. SUPPORT. DONATE.



To learn more visit [ProLiteracy.org](https://www.proliteracy.org)
or Text "READS" to 91999 to make
a donation. 1.888.528.2224

ProLiteracy is a 501(c)(3)

**Please consider a donation to the Literacy Council of Frederick County.
Your financial gift is vital to help sustain our programs
during these unprecedented times. Thank you!**

- **CARES Act: New Charitable Giving Incentives:** Above-the-Line Deductions: Available to all individual taxpayers, \$300 donation in 2020 tax year, Lift AGI Cap (for itemizers). Corporate donations: raises cap to 25% of taxable income.
- Gifts can be made by cash or online by credit card.
- Gifts of Appreciated Securities can provide tax advantages.
- Retirement Plan Giving for those age 70½ and over may provide substantial tax benefits.
- Consider a Planned Gift to the Literacy Council.
- Our Giving Societies are special charitable opportunities to champion the Literacy Council's mission.
- Access our Annual Reports/Newsletters.

Many Thanks to Our 2020-2021 Grantors!

Ausherman Family Foundation
COVID-19 Emergency Fund
Crimsonbridge Foundation
Delaplaine Foundation
Frederick County Government
Jacobson Family Foundation
Mobile Learning Fund
National Book Fund
State Farm Companies Foundation

The Community Foundation of Frederick County
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