

DONATE NOW

The <u>Literacy Council of Frederick County</u> provides adults with pathways to essential literacy skills. Success for the individuals and families we seek to serve rests on a collective community approach.

About Us Students Volunteer News Contact

LEARNER Spotlight

Winter ESL Book Club Explores "Songbirds"



The Winter English as a Second Language (ESL) Book Club at the Literacy Council met for three sessions and enjoyed the poetic words and moving story of Christy Lefteri in *Songbirds*. It was an edge of your seat read that had elements of literary fiction as well as mystery and suspense.

The students and volunteer tutors engaged in lively discussions about the many aspects of this remarkable book.

Following the final session, everyone gathered at Delizia Cafe

in downtown Frederick.

VOLUNTEER Spotlight

Meet Erin: Parent Literacy Tutor and Instructor

When Erin Runkles was looking for another way to make good use of her skills as an English teacher in 2021, she came across the website for the Literacy Council of Frederick County.

"I knew nothing about it, but I gave it a try," and three years later, Erin continues as a volunteer with the Literacy Council's Tutoring Program and Parent Literacy Program, tutoring an individual adult learner, Sandra, and teaching English as a second language to parents in the weekly classes at Butterfly Ridge Elementary School.



At first, Erin recalls, the experience was scary. "I wondered, how am I going to help all these people coming from different backgrounds. But as I get to know [the parents], they are very open to asking questions and to letting me know what they need. I've learned that just listening to my students is the best strategy to helping them achieve their goals."

Read More Here

UPCOMING Events



Touching Lives Awards - Deadline March 4th

Celebrate the people at the heart of Frederick County nonprofits! The Touching Lives Award nominations are now open.

"The Touching Lives Award recognizes non-management staff that provide front line services to a Frederick County nonprofit's clientele, or that provide administrative support that sustains the

operations of the organization, and does not manage any staff members (employees).

These nominees have demonstrated outstanding involvement and commitment to touching the lives of others."

Please use this link to nominate someone: frederickchamber.org/touchinglivesnominations

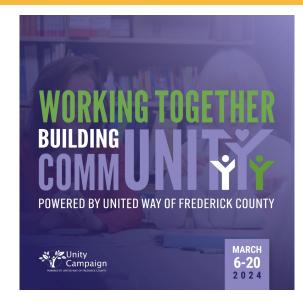
Learn More Here

Unity Campaign for Frederick County

This year marks the <u>Unity Campaign</u>'s 10th anniversary in Frederick County, and the Literacy Council 10th year of participation! The <u>Literacy Council</u> relies on this campaign as its largest fundraiser each year.

The campaign is focused on funding programs directly supporting the health, education, and financial stability of ALICE (Asset-Limited,

Income-Constrained, Employed) households.



The Unity Campaign is a collaborative project between nonprofit partners, sponsors, and the greater Frederick community to support our most vulnerable neighbors from *March 6 through March 20*.

Through the generosity of our Incentive Match sponsors, 100% of your contribution goes directly to the designated nonprofit. In addition, your individual gift is boosted because a portion of all donations is matched by the sponsors.

Please consider a gift to the Literacy Council during the Unity Campaign March 6-20!

HELP GIVE THE GIFT OF LITERACY NOW



SAVE THE DATE: Scrabble Mania for Literacy May 8!

Get ready to join us for Scrabble Mania for Literacy 2024 at Steinhart Brewing Company with Chris Sparks, Surelocked In Escape Games! Back for another year of fun and games to support all of our literacy programs, we're excited to host teams to compete for prizes during this annual fundraiser.

Calling All Auction Contributors & Sponsors!

We are seeking donations of auction items, including gift certificates for family recreation, restaurants, breweries & wineries, theatre and arts events, and more!

Want to become a business sponsor and help support our literacy programs? Game Master Chris Sparks has a special message in the video below for sponsors! Now's the time to make a commitment! Submit payment through our donation page **HERE** and indicate sponsorship level.

Questions? Contact Laurie Fisher at <u>lauriefisher@frederickliteracy.org</u> for more information. Ticket sales coming soon for teams and players. Share this <u>event flyer</u> with friends and families!

Help spread the word! Share our <u>Scrabble Sponsor Flyer</u>!



Learn More Here

Recruiting Volunteer Tutors and Community Class Instructors



Join the Literacy Council to help adults in our community gain literacy skills! We are recruiting volunteer tutors to work with adults one-to-one or in small groups. You do not need previous experience. We will give you the training and teaching materials you need! We are also seeking volunteer class instructors with ESL teaching experience for our growing community class program. Tutoring and classes are conducted in person as well as virtual formats.

Congratulations to our recent Tutor Training Workshop Graduates!

For upcoming **Volunteer Information Sessions** and **Tutor Training Workshops**, check out our Winter/Spring Volunteer Training Schedule. Please

register HERE or contact us at: info@frederickliteracy.org. We have just added more sessions and workshops for the winter!

Attend a Volunteer Information Session

Monday, March 11, 2024, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Thursday, March 21, 2024, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Attendance of a Volunteer Information Session (via Zoom) is required prior to registering for our Tutor Training Workshop.

Attend a Training Workshop for Tutors

Tuesday & Thursday, Apr. 9 & 11, 2024, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. and Monday, March 4, 2024, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (Must attend all three sessions) *Virtual.*

If you are interested in more information about teaching a class, following attendance at a Volunteer Information Session, contact the Literacy Council at info@frederickliteracy.org. Orientations are conducted for instructors in preparation for upcoming class sessions.

Register for a Volunteer Info Session Today

English Classes for Adults Winter Schedule

Winter Classes are underway! View our current student <u>Class Schedule</u> to learn more about the Literacy Council's class instruction program.

We offer beginner, intermediate, and advanced-level classes. Any questions, please contact LCFC's Office at info@frederickliteracy.org. Many thanks to our amazing volunteer instructors who make it possible to provide these classes!



Interested in teaching an ESL class at the Literacy Council? Check out our winter volunteer training schedule below!

Learn More Here

SPECIAL Thanks

2024 Grantors

Ausherman Family Foundation Crimsonbridge Foundation

The Community Foundation of Frederick County

Delaplaine Foundation
Frederick County Community Partnership
ProLiteracy's Literacy Opportunity Fund
Love of Christ Foundation, Inc.
Maryland Department of Commerce, Office
of Tourism
The CarMax Foundation

The Helen J. Serini Foundation
The Joseph D. Baker Fund, Inc.
The Laughlin Family Foundation
Tourism Council's Destination
Development
United Way of Frederick County
William E. Cross Foundation
Women's Giving Circle of Frederick County

The Gift of Literacy: Ways to Give

Thank you for considering a gift to the Literacy Council! Your financial contribution supports critical adult literacy programs in our community!

- Gifts can be made in cash or online with a credit card.
- Become an event sponsor.
- Gifts of Appreciated Securities can provide tax advantages.
- Retirement Plan Giving for those age 70½ and over may provide substantial tax benefits.
- Consider a <u>Planned Gift</u> to the Literacy Council.
- Contribute to <u>The Betty Seligmann Literacy Endowment Fund</u>.
- Our <u>Giving Societies</u> are special charitable opportunities to champion the Literacy Council's mission.
- Access our Annual Reports/Newsletters.

Questions: Contact us at (301) 600-2066 or info@frederickliteracy.org









Looking for a previous issue? Check ourarchive.









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