

Results:
On Course



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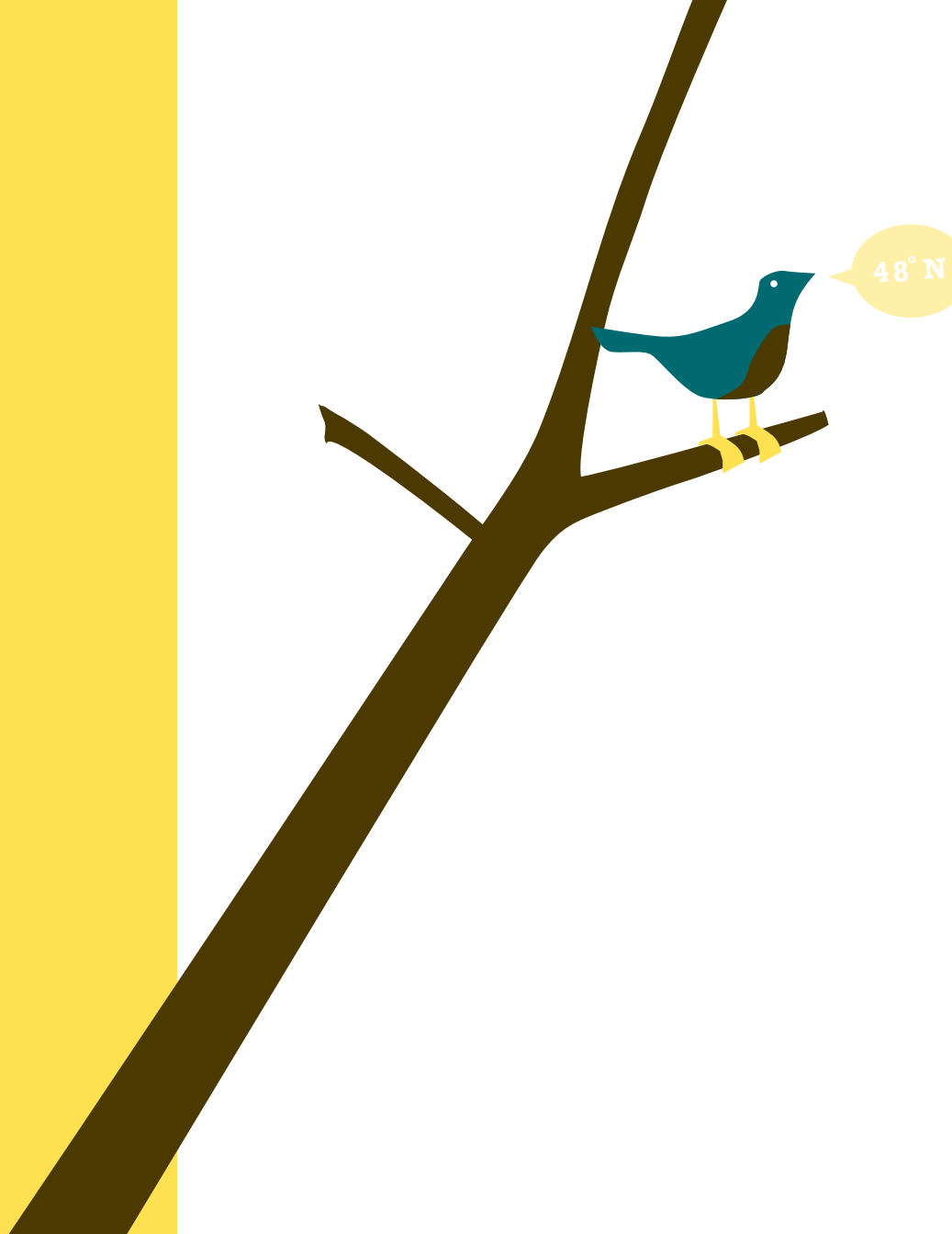
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Setting a proper course

Towards self-sufficiency: We are proud that, even in challenging times, Literacy Source models self-sufficiency while we nurture it in our adult learners. Our current strategic plan focuses our efforts so that instructional programs continue to meet our community’s needs while we maintain financial and organizational health.

The strategic plan reaffirms that our top priority is serving low-income adults in King County with literacy and life skills instruction. Staff members are working hard to make sure that current instruction continues to embody excellence and that programming responds to student needs and facilitates their transition to the broader community. Our second priority focuses Board and Staff efforts on a variety of actions that support and build on our financial and organizational health.

During this time of economic uncertainty, Literacy Source celebrates the hard work of volunteers, students, staff and board members and the generous support of donors. Our grantors, including the Office of Adult Basic Education, United Way of King County and the New Citizenship Initiative also provide ongoing stability. Thanks to the commitment of all these members of our community, students are meeting their goals, making significant gains on standardized tests, getting jobs, obtaining high school diplomas and taking care of their families without missing a beat.

– *Anne Helmholz, Executive Director and Tommy Donovan, Board President*

Adult learners find new direction at Literacy Source

Whether they are ESL students learning to use computers, recent arrivals studying for the citizenship exam, workers enhancing job competencies, or inmates striving to break old patterns, Literacy Source's adult learners journey toward new destinations every day. They are guided by dedicated staff and volunteers and supported by our reliably generous donors, funders and community partners.

LEARNERS ARRIVE IN ESL CLASSES FROM A VARIETY OF STARTING POINTS

Our partnership with the National Union of Eritrean Women in North Seattle was a highlight of the ESL program this year. With a grant from the City of Seattle, the NUEW contracted with Literacy Source to provide ESL instruction to about ten women of varying language levels. In the spring, LS added a Basic Computer Skills class, teaching typing and email use to students with little or no computer experience. Students emailed photos to family and friends and checked their children's progress via online student records. Thanks to instructor Cat Howell and Seattle University interns, we expanded our classes and partnerships in the south end of King County. Our ESL classes in Tukwila served learners from Ethiopia, Iran, Mexico, El Salvador, Burma, Nepal, and elsewhere. The class at Cascade View Elementary, which offered childcare in partnership with the Community Schools Collaboration, remained extremely popular, with a long waitlist. We continued our evening class in the Samara Apartment complex and expanded into SeaTac with an ESL class at The Angle Lake Family Resource Center.

With a nod to the increasing importance of computer literacy for our learners, we improved our computer offerings this year. We continued to teach computer skills to adult learners and added a new ESL computer literacy class at Seattle's Garfield Community Center. We also offered new computer training to computer tutors and any Literacy Source volunteer working to integrate more computer instruction into tutoring or classroom lesson plans.

FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTION HELPS NEW AMERICANS NATURALIZE

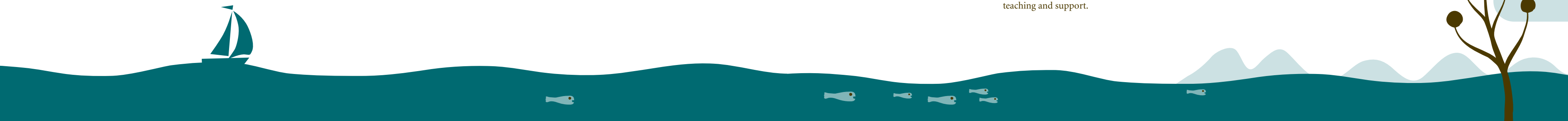
This year, thirty eight students naturalized as citizens with help from Literacy Source. Their journeys to citizenship are as varied as their ages, backgrounds, and languages. Gebrezgi, a single father and refugee from Ethiopia, studied for three years to pass the citizenship test, ensuring that he can remain in the US to care for his son. Nga, who needed to naturalize to keep her job at the VA hospital, balanced school, work, and childcare with citizenship tutoring. Literacy Source helped her meet her goal by providing instruction at home, thanks to Seattle's New Citizen Initiative and dedicated volunteers. Volunteer tutors and instructors play a critical role in student success, building confidence with excellent teaching and support.

Citizenship learners benefit from the variety of classes, including a new Citizenship and Civics class offered to low-income immigrants and refugees at Seattle's Southwest Library. Staff and volunteers also offered mock interview workshops at Renton's Fairwood Library and the Auburn Library. In addition to the libraries, Catholic Refugee and Immigration Services, St. James ESL Program, and Northwest Immigrant Rights Project continued to provide valuable immigration-related services to Literacy Source citizenship students this year.

WORKERS IMPROVE LITERACY FOR BETTER JOB PROSPECTS

A highlight of workplace learning this year was a special pre-employment program for Walsh Construction offered at the Greenbridge YWCA. Ten students focused primarily on jobsite safety, but also learned key vocabulary and communication skills for the construction jobsite. A pre- and post- test administered to participants showed that in four weeks the average test score improved from 48% to 93%!

Literacy Source's Workforce program offered two classes to support students seeking work or a better job. ESL for Job-Seekers included WorkFirst students and others with low literacy. Students learned resume writing and interviewing as well as basic literacy. A Computer Skills class taught basic computer skills like using a mouse and keyboarding. Implementing a new co-instructor model for most classes has meant fewer canceled classes and more support for both students and instructors, who work together to create lesson plans and support our multi-level learners.



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AIM HIGH

The External Diploma Program had an exceptional year, with thirty new applicants and eight graduates. In these tough economic times, many adults realize they need a high school diploma to compete for work or qualify for financial aid for college. One of our graduates wrote a piece for the Bridge to Literacy newsletter and spoke at a volunteer orientation and she plans to attend college. Two other Literacy Source graduates attended college this last school year as well . Another used her diploma to meet graduation requirements for the Greenwood Hair Academy. Congratulations to EDP graduates Jillian Anderson, Jill Buchanan, Chuck Zimmerman, Jake Bouthsa, Treena Carmichael, Tim Docken, KrisTina Bowser, and Ronte Davis!

INMATES PREPARE FOR THEIR JOURNEY INTO A NEW LIFE

This year’s Transitions Class served 85 men, several of whom were enrolled for more than one quarter. Transitions students come to class for skills to help them break the cycle of incarceration. They practice anger and stress management techniques, explore career options, share effective parenting strategies, and examine the dynamics of addiction. They also practice introspective writing: two students contributed to the Bridge to Literacy newsletter. Although one-to-one tutoring is no longer offered at KCCF, interested volunteers are invited to tutor in the Transitions Class.

A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY HELPS OUR LEARNERS MOVE FORWARD

We were again honored to have book maven Nancy Pearl’s support (and fabulous book recommendations) in celebrating lifelong learning and student achievements at our annual fundraising breakfast. Speeches by learners Joares “Junior” Lass and Andres Robles, with his tutor Roger Meece, inspired listeners as they discussed their experiences with the ESL, Computer Tutoring and GED preparation.

We received critical support for our programs with an award of \$11,750 last October from Seattle’s Department of Neighborhoods for community

engagement programs. Seattle’s Bill Wright Technology Matching Fund provided \$16,200 this spring to expand our technology offerings to low-income learners.

As always, our literacy community celebrated at the winter party. Everyone enjoyed musical entertainment from students and volunteers, sampled potluck dishes from around the world and exchanged favorite books.



A. Nancy Pearl impresses again with her Breakfast book talk.

B. Tsehey became a citizen with help from Silvia and others.

C. New high school graduate KrisTina celebrates with Kit and Miranda.

D. Bilal and Andres thank Paul for his tutoring during Volunteer Week .

E. Walsh Construction workers improve their literacy and language skills.

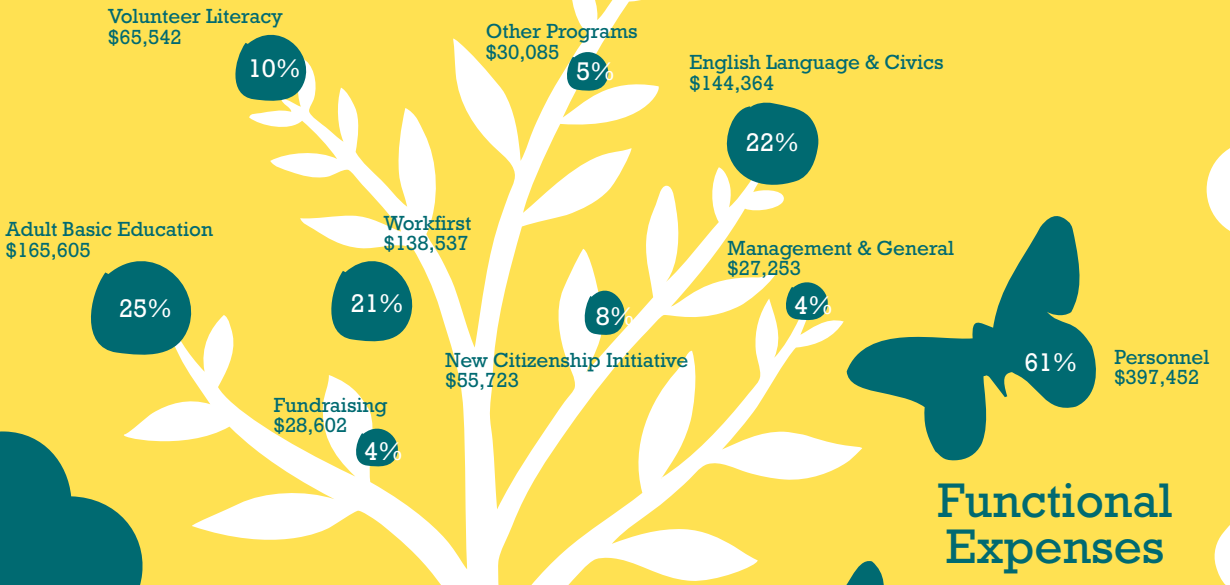
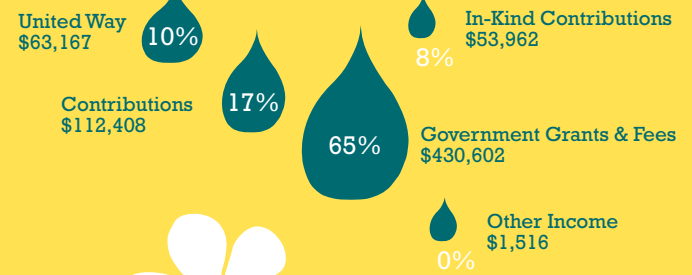
F. LiNing learns about American holidays at a Community Engagement Workshop.

I’VE HAD HELP WITH COMPUTERS, CITIZENSHIP AND FOR MY DRIVER’S LICENSE. I CANNOT MEASURE HOW MUCH I GET HELP... I USED TO NOT KNOW WHAT “DO NOT REMOVE” MEANS, WHICH COULD BE A BIG PROBLEM! I KNOW THIS IS SMALL FOR YOU GUYS, BUT IT IS BIG FOR ME.

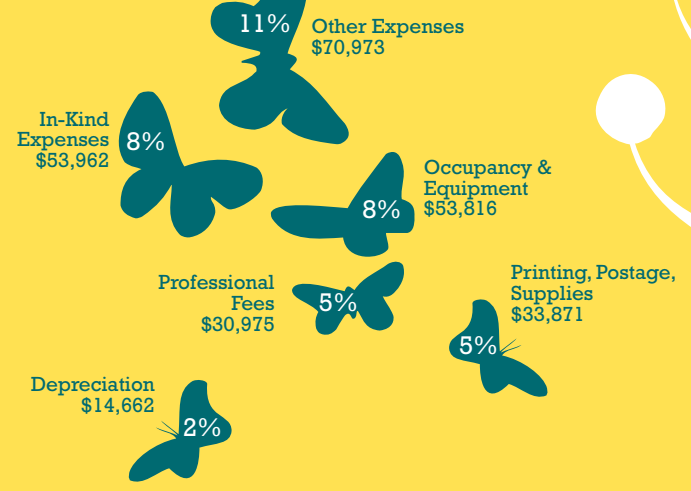
STUDENT



Revenues



Program Expenses

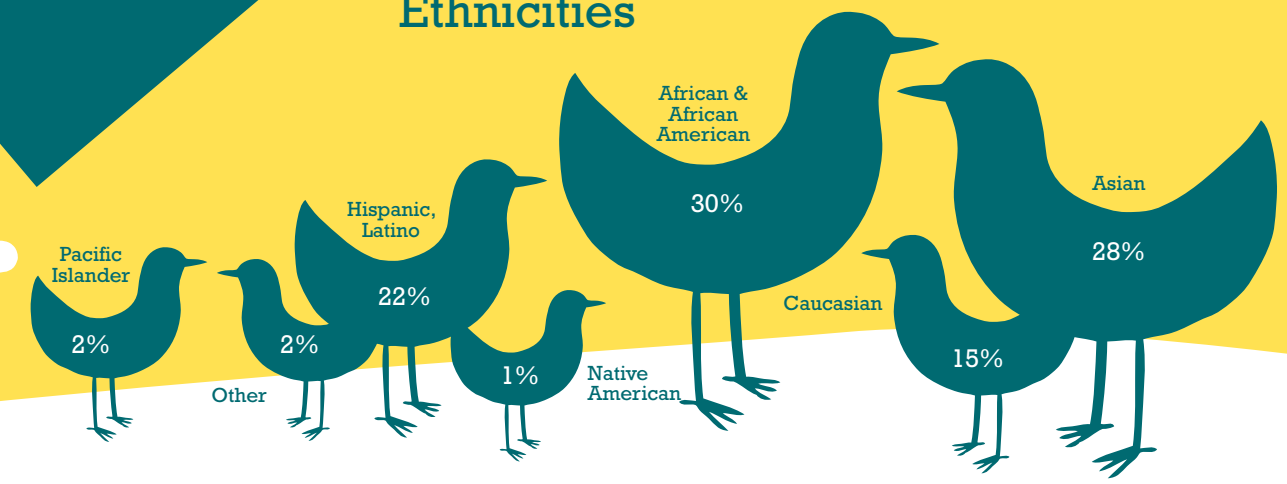


Functional Expenses

Program Areas



Ethnicities





“LEARNING READING WOULD BE A BIG DEAL FOR ME BECAUSE I NEVER GO TO SCHOOL. BEFORE I CAN’T READ MY NAME. I CAN’T SAY ABCD, I CAN’T SAY NOTHING. NOW I FEEL BETTER WITH MY ENGLISH. I HAVE STILL A LONG WAYS TO GO, BUT I WILL LEARN. ”

STUDENT

“THE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM IS AMAZING AND WHEN I GOT TO PROVIDE MOCK INTERVIEWS FOR TWO STUDENTS IT WAS REWARDING TO SEE HOW HARD THEY WORKED FOR SOMETHING THAT I OFTEN TAKE FOR GRANTED.”

VOLUNTEER

“THE STUDENT WAS VERY PLEASED AND PROUD WHEN HE COULD WRITE HIS NAME AND ADDRESS. HE WAS ALSO PROUD WHEN HE COULD READ THE MENU ITEMS FROM THE RESTAURANT WHERE HE WORKS AND RECEIVED A RAISE BECAUSE HE COULD DO THIS. ”

VOLUNTEER

VOLUNTEERS

We deeply appreciate the more than 200 community members who gave their time to provide more than 430 students with nearly 14,000 hours of instruction this year. Volunteers ensure that our Center is open for learning nearly 45 hours each week. Thank you to the heart and soul of Literacy Source:

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for list

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