



Learner and volunteer

Open Door Learning Center GED student, Joyce, took a break from classes over the summer. Motivated by her desire to improve kids' education, she volunteered fulltime as a Summer Reads VISTA, tutoring K-3 children at two different host sites in east St. Paul. "I want to learn from children to be able to help them better," she says. But she impacted the kids as well, using her own experiences to help them understand how literacy can help them achieve their dreams.

Joyce's goal is to be a social worker, and she seems to have chosen the right path. Her supervisor took note of Joyce's ability to persevere through challenges and adds, "Joyce is very good at advocating for what is right

Volunteers and donors

John and Sheila's passion for education and working with adults led them to us, and they soon found themselves volunteering at our Open Door Learning Center. Here, they discovered an environment where students are eager to learn, teachers are highly skilled and volunteers receive tremendous support. "How can you not fall in love with this place?" John asks.

And they've discovered volunteering is about more than what happens in class. John appreciates the way staff and volunteers genuinely want to get to know the students and help them in their everyday lives. Sheila has recognized the importance of being an ambassador as well as a volunteer, recalling a time when she helped a student resolve an issue with her landlord.

John and Sheila also support us through both in-kind and financial donations because "when we donate, we know exactly where our money goes."



ECHO and the literacy council

Housing rights and responsibilities. Health care access. Inclement weather. Domestic abuse. Understanding these topics is important for all Minnesotans, but when you're a new immigrant or refugee, how do you learn what you and your family need to know to stay healthy and safe?

Twin Cities Public Television and Emergency Community Health Outreach (ECHO) turned to us to help communicate reliable information about these topics and more. The one-week curriculum units we developed for our English language classes have accompanied ECHO's multilingual media campaigns since 2012. "We rely on the literacy council for their instructional expertise," says ECHO Director Lillian McDonald. Pre- and post-unit testing is showing this combination – ECHO's media programs paired with the literacy council's curriculum – is highly effective in increasing learners' knowledge of housing, health care and safety in Minnesota.



partnerships MAXIMIZE POTENTIAL

Northstar and sponsor sites

Northstar Digital Literacy Project is a first-of-its-kind assessment that defines basic skill standards in 10 categories, like navigating the Internet and using Excel. Anyone can access this online tool for free to gauge their digital literacy skills, and they can earn a certificate at one of 300+ sponsor sites nationwide.

The community collaborative behind Northstar chose the literacy council to manage its expansion. Now widely used in Adult Basic Education programs, workforce centers, libraries and junior colleges, the total number of assessments completed recently surpassed the one million mark! Its rapid growth provides practical evidence that organizations and the adults they serve find value in Northstar.



serving **MINNESOTANS**



of 2,566 kids improved or maintained their reading fluency

Summer Reads

1,418 referrals made to literacy programs via phone, text or email (22% in Spanish) Adult Literacy Hotline

91% of parents assessed took steps to better support their child's learning

Early Literacy and Families

of students surveyed said they were referred to us by friends, family or another literacy/community-based organization

Open Door Learning Center (6 sites)

supporting ORGANIZĂTIONS

2,503 people equipped with tutoring skills and strategies

Tutor Training

95% of volunteers surveyed agreed our training prepared them for their role

Volunteer Outreach

91% of kids served in VISTA-driven projects improved their literacy skills

Literacy VISTA

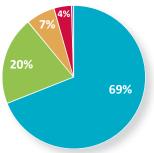
507 Adult Basic Education professionals trained Technology Services

f 142 participants in the Bremer Rural Library and Literacy Leadership Institute since 2012

Literacy Strategies



Fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 Complete financial statements available at mnliteracy.org **DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS**



272

Where did our support come from?

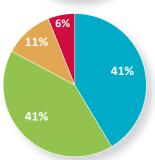
Government grants

Program service fees; other

Corporate and foundation grants **170** Contributions; special events

In-kind contributions

\$4,354 Total support and revenue



How did we spend our money?

Serving Minnesotans \$1,775

1,766 Supporting organizations

Fundraising

468 Administration

\$4,281 **Total expenses**

Assets

\$1,010 Cash and cash equivalents

Accounts/grants receivable

Other current assets

136 Long-term assets

Endowment 690 **Total assets** \$2,358

Liabilities and Net Assets

\$94 Accounts payable

286 Accrued expenses; other current liabilities

479 Unrestricted net assets

500 Board designated net assets

Board designated permanent endowment 657

Temporarily restricted net assets Total liabilities and net assets \$2,358

thank you, **DONORS!**

Contributions from July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016.

Provide life-changing literacy skills for future generations.
Please remember the Minnesota Literacy Council in your will.

\$100,000+

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