



221 W. Madison St. Suite #6
Eau Claire, WI
54703

www.LiteracyChippewaValley.org

LITERACY CHANGES EVERYTHING



Annual Report 2024-25

FROM THE BOARD

Dear Friends of Literacy Chippewa Valley,

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon with which you can change the world". I wholeheartedly agree with this. Taking that a step further, knowing how to read, implement education, use digital technology to access information, and how to interact with those around you provides the fundamentals that are essential to bring about that change, including in your own world. Literacy Chippewa Valley provides that education, and more, to members of our community through services such as tutoring, ESL, digital literacy, financial literacy, family literacy, job skills training, GED instruction, testing, and more. We have served over 660 students in the Chippewa Valley this past year and helped change their worlds. Importantly, we also offer services to individuals incarcerated in jail to provide educational services that will help with long-term stability when they are released. This stability, in turn, reduces rates of recidivism and crime in our community.



Kate Cook President, Board of Directors

Literacy Chippewa Valley has always been a community organization. We serve the community. We're a part of the community. We're supported by the community. We are able to engage with the community because of the support we receive from our community: through volunteer engagement, participation in our annual ScrabbleBee, and through monetary contributions. We are constantly looking for opportunities to engage with the community by partnering with local organizations for events such as International Literacy Day.

The funding we receive from the community is absolutely vital to the operations of our organization. Thank you. Without your generous donations, we would not be able to continue with the vital services we offer. We are able to touch so many lives in the community because of your generosity.

It has been my pleasure to serve as Board President, and I look forward to all the exciting things we have in store for the future of Literacy Chippewa Valley.

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." - Benjamin Franklin

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Board of Directors

President: Kate Cook (Attorney, Public Defender's Office)

Past President: Nicole Breed (Chippewa Valley Technical College)

Members:

Macie Nietzel (Clearwater Assisted Living)

Richard Coates (Wiplfi LLP)

Heather Felty (Inner Peace Press)

Margaret Cook (Retired)

Allison Shepard (Attorney, Shepard Law, S.C.)

Jackson Schmidke (Xcel Energy)

Daniel Schierenbeck (Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary)

Angie Stokes, (Department of Human Services)

Our Mission: To empower adults and their families to reach their educational,

OUR PARTNERS & STAFF

Our Literacy Partners

Altoona Public Library	Eau Claire County Jail
Beacon House	Eau Claire YMCA
Bolton House	Family Resource Center
Career Development Center	Feed My People
Chippewa County Jail	L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library
Chippewa Falls School District	Lutheran Social Services
Chippewa Falls Chamber of Commerce	Menomonie Public Library
Chippewa Falls Community Foundation	Pro Literacy
Chippewa Falls High School Honor Society	Rutledge/Cssper Foundation
Chippewa Valley Technical College	University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire
City of Eau Claire	Volume One
Community Table	Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development
Community Foundation of Dunn County	Wisconsin Department of Public Instructions
Community Foundation of Eau Claire County	Wisconsin Job Service
Community Foundation of Chippewa County	Wisconsin Literacy
Dollar General Foundation	Wisconsin Public Radio
Dunn County Jail	Wisconsin Technical College System
Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce	Women's Giving Circle Eau Claire
Eau Claire Area School District	Women's Giving Circle Dunn County
Eau Claire Community Foundation	

Current Staff

Executive Director: Elizabeth Hart

Development Coordinator: Aryn Widule

Eau Claire Corrections Instructor: Dawn Lueck

Chippewa Corrections Instructor: Aleah Sauter

Dunn Corrections Instructor: Aleah Sauter

Family Literacy Instructor: Amanda Robelia

Workplace Literacy Instructor: Aryn Widule

Childcare Instructor: Annabelle Abbe

employment, and life goals through free, learner-focused literacy programs.

WHAT WE DO

OUR CONTINUING PROGRAMS

One-to-One Tutoring

One-to-One programming provides weekly tutoring services specific to the interests and abilities of learners. Tutors focus on topics ranging from English Language Learning (ELL), math, GED/HSED acquisition, driver's license preparation and citizenship testing preparation.

Corrections Education

Our Corrections Education program operates in the Eau Claire, Dunn and Chippewa county jails. Corrections education teaches job skills, mental health improvement, basic education and GED/HSED attainment. Students who participate in corrections education classes have a significantly reduced recidivism rate compared to state and national averages. Corrections education includes "Parents Sharing Books", a program that provides donated books to the children of incarcerated individuals during the holidays. PSB would not be possible without the help of our volunteers in addition to book donations from the Chippewa Falls High School Honor Society and the La Crosse Diocese of Catholic Women.

Family Literacy

Family Literacy programming provides English Language Learning (ELL) classes with onsite childcare at our Eau Claire office. Family Literacy involves education for the parents, the children, and also Parents and Children Together (PACT) activities along with guest speakers and hands-on experience, like guided trips to the L.E. Phillips Memorial Library.

Workplace Literacy

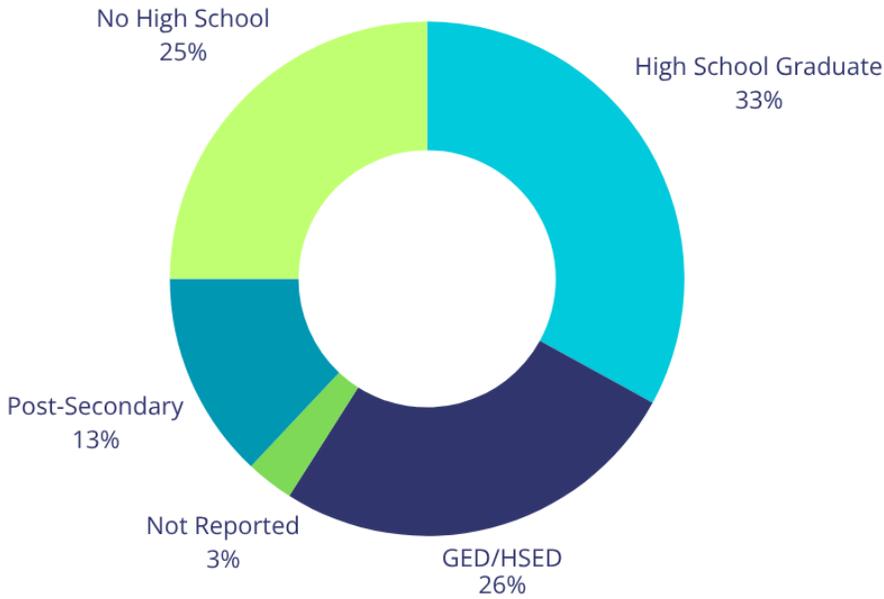
This year LCV piloted a new program at 5 Star Dairy in Elk Mound which provided onsite ELL classes for dairy employees. Going forward we are working to improve and expand this Workplace Literacy program to bring education directly to the students at manufacturing and agricultural businesses to eliminate barriers to scheduling that prevent many adult students from furthering their education.

Senior Digital Literacy

This year LCV continued its partnership with United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley to provide Senior Digital Literacy classes throughout the Chippewa Valley and surrounding rural areas. These classes are designed meet seniors where they are, and provide education in confidently navigating their computers, the internet, and other areas of rapidly developing technology in an attempt to reduce the digital divide and keep seniors safe.

WHO WE SERVE

STUDENTS BY EDUCATION LEVEL



**Our Students
Come From
All Over
The World!**



OUR GROWTH



Annual Snapshot

660

Total students in all programs. A record number for a second straight year

11,788

Total student hours across all programs, the most since the 2017-2018 school year and an increase of 25% from 2023-2024



29

The number of businesses in the Chippewa Valley who employed LCV students

97%

Percentage of Corrections Education programs student goals met out of total attempted



67.3

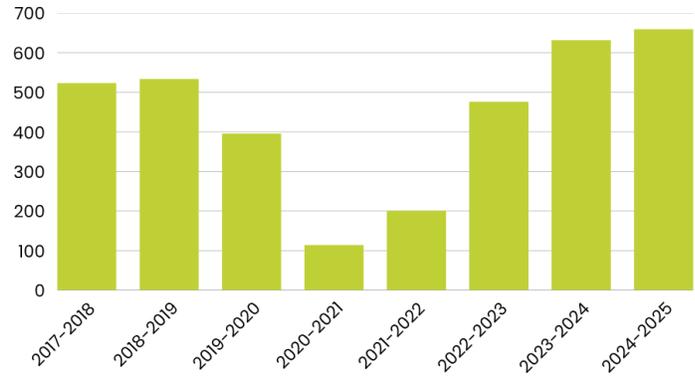
The average number of class hours for students in our Family Literacy English Language Learning (ELL) classes. An increase of 32% from 2023-2024



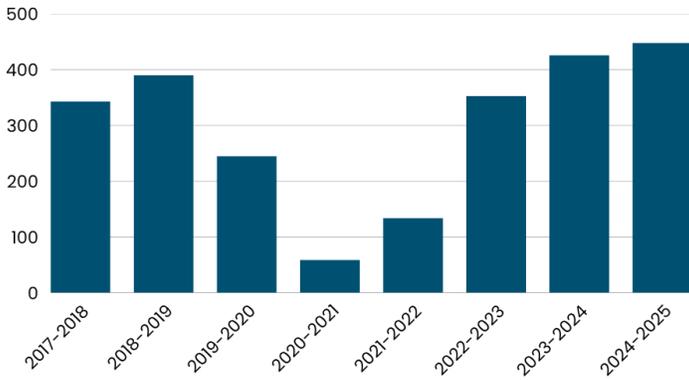
OUR GROWTH



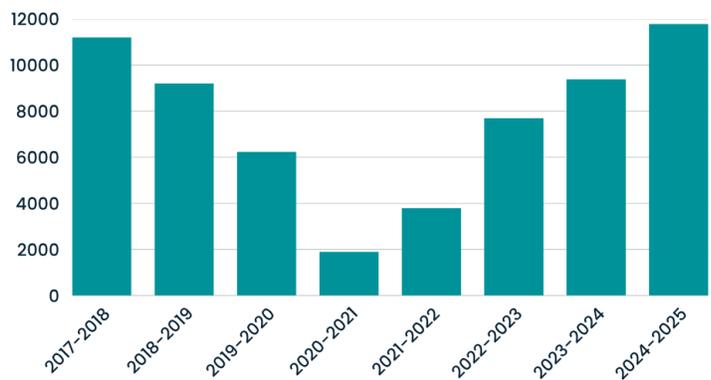
TOTAL STUDENTS



CORRECTIONS EDUCATION STUDENTS



TOTAL STUDENT HOURS



LITERACY EVENTS



ScrabbleBee

Thank you to all of our players, sponsors and volunteers for making the 2025 ScrabbleBee so much fun and such a great success! This year we once again raised nearly \$20,000 for adult literacy education!

We'd also like to give a special thank you to our emcee for the evening, WQOW News 18's Nicole Ashley, and to the team captain of Calvin's Cadre, Katherine Schneider, for raising over \$4,000 in team pledges for the event. Calvin's Cadre makes a huge difference for us every year, and we are so thankful to have them (and Calvin) participate!

Hare Division

Winner: Wisconsin Public Radio

Tortoise Division

Winner: Calvin's Cadre

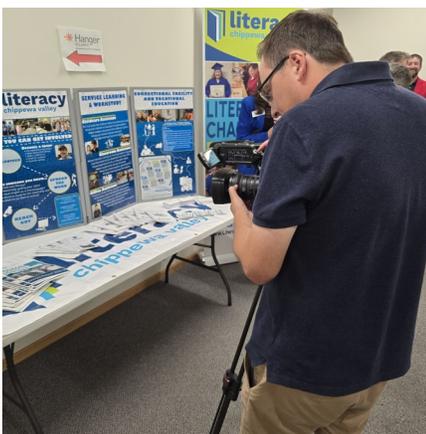
Top Pledge:

Winner: Calvin's Cadre (Kathy Schneider—team captain)



Ribbon Cutting at a New Office!

In September LCV moved into a new location and freshly renovated learning center located at 221 W. Madison St. The move allowed us to offer an updated learning experience for our students and moved us into the same building with our partners at World Relief as well as the Eau Claire Job Center, improving communication and making it more convenient for our students to utilize their services and easier for them to refer students to LCV for assistance with their education. After we were settled we made it all official with a joint ribbon cutting with the Eau Claire Area and Chippewa Falls Area Chambers of Commerce!



LITERACY EVENTS

THANK YOU to this year's generous sponsors!

Event Sponsor:



Game Sponsors:

Wipfli
Nero DUI Defense
Asher Lasting Exteriors
Pablo Foundation
Clean N' Classy Carwash
Shepard Law, S.C.

Major Sponsors:



WISCONSIN
PUBLIC RADIO



Tile Sponsors:

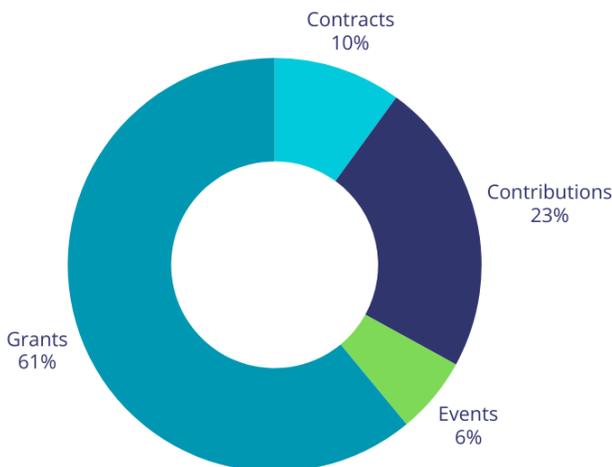
Festival Foods
Northwestern Bank
Student Transit
Westconsin Credit Union
Herrick & Hart, S.C.

Sponsors:

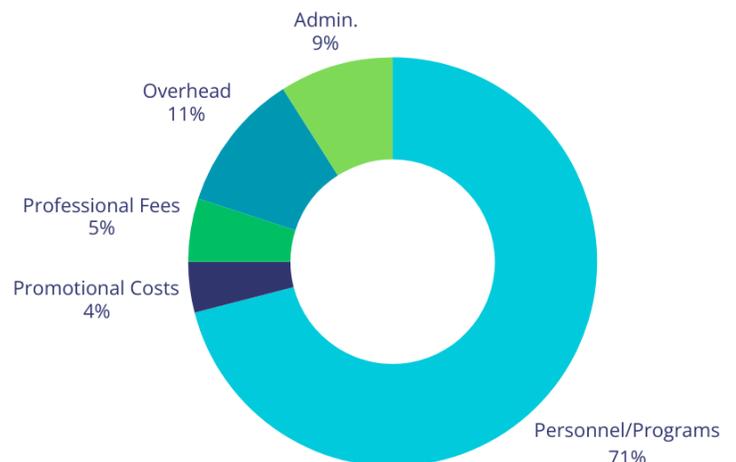
The Brewing Projekt
Josef's Cheesecake
JimBob's Pizza

At the end of each fiscal year, LCV invites an independent auditor to review our financial reporting. We'd like to thank CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP for conducting our fiscal review. Results of the audit are presented at our November board meeting. Financial statements are available at our Eau Claire office for review by the public.

REVENUE



EXPENSES



*All data, unless otherwise noted, represents the 2024-2025 fiscal year. (July 1st, 2024 - June 30th 2025)

Our Investors

Thank you!

Literacy Chippewa Valley is thankful for the generosity of our Investors. We strive to accurately recognize our donors. If we have omitted or incorrectly spelled your name, please do not hesitate to contact our office so that we can ensure correct recognition in the future.

LEGACY \$25,000 & ABOVE	FRIEND \$500-\$999	SUPPORTER \$100-\$249
Connie & Pat Ulrich Testamentary Trust	AnnMarie Foundation, Inc. BMO Harris Bank Eau Claire County Carol & William Gabler Vicki & John Graaskamp Herrick & Hart, S.C. Steven & Brenda Johnson Market & Johnson Lasker Jewelers Julia Kyle Menomonie Lions Club Angie & Vinay Nijhawan Eva Santos-Phillips & William Phillips Gordon & Rita Simon Missy & Jeff Stepanek Laura & Don Talley Student Transit Laura & Don Talley	Anonymous Ann & Bruce Barker Lopamudra & Sandeep Basu Joyce & John Benninghouse Marilyn & Jim Bollinger Inez & Stanley Campbell Suzanne Carlson Marilyn & Michael Carlson Menomonie Lions Club Carlyn Conway Connie Cranford Cheryl Cutsforth Patti & Jeff Darley Delphine & Michael Diffendorfer Doris Durst Eau Claire County Kelly & Stephen Endres In Honor of Heidi & Andy Fisher Kim & Jason Frank David Franks Betty Gertner Mary & Peter Hable Jan & Phil Happe Mary Ann Hardebeck Karen & Dale Haymann Herbert Kohl Charities Patty & Jeff Henry Beth & Ed Hicks Sally & Lee Hofer Gretchen Hutterli Bob Ippolite Kurt Jacobson Lasker Jewelers Peggy & Alfred Jones Edla Karr In Memory of Kay Tubbs John Moseng & Sandee Kosmo Mary & Jerry Kuehl Kathy Lasker Peg & Jake Leinenkugel John Lubs C & K McMahon Marjorie McManus Emily & Gregg Moore Kathleen & William Morin Joy & Joe Motto Martha Munger & Don Mowry Sharon Nero
VISIONARY \$10,000-\$24,999		
Chippewa County Jail Chippewa Valley Technical College Dunn County Jail Eau Claire Community Foundation Edward & Hannah M. Rutledge Charities LE Phillips Family Foundation Pablo Foundation		
SUSTAINING \$5,000-\$9,999	SPONSOR \$250-\$499	
Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.	Inez & Stanley Campbell Michael & Carolyn Carlson Bradley Carter Patti & Jeff Darley Suzanne M Gaines Kathy Meade-Hebert & Ed Hebert Sally & Jack Kaiser Kiwanis Club of Chippewa Falls Inc. Jill & Paul Kulig Mary Spies Mary & Thomas Sazama Sue & Roger Tietz Unitarian Universalist Congregation W. S. Darley & Company Julie & Randall Woodruff	
BENEFACTOR \$2,000-\$4,999		
Jennifer & Jason Beckermann Robin & Becky Drout Community Foundation Of Dunn County Valerie & James Fedie Mary & Jerry Jacobson Charlotte & Howard Lee Ruth & Brian Peterson Royal Credit Union Patricia Stoffers		
PARTNER \$1,000-\$1,999		
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Connie & Tim Russell	Valerie Prueher
Pamm Spooner	Sharon Risberg
St. James the Greater Parish	Dorothy Rossow
Council of Catholic Women	Mary & James Sauter
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Judy & Brian Wier	Sherry & John Sprague
Timothy & Shannon Young	Judy & Brian Wier
Debra & Keith Zehms	Toni Wilson
	Marie Young

CONTRIBUTOR IN-KIND TO \$99

Annabelle Abbe
Kathleen Anderson
Judy & C.C. Anderson
Carol K. Bauer
Julie & Chris Bendel
Carol & Jim Benning
Judith Blackstone
Sister Diane Boehm
Cindy Bullock
Nancee & John Burbank
Olivia Burg
Nancy & Matthew Coffey
Eau Claire Area School District
Dr. & Mrs. Douglas M. England
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Game Farm
Dominic Flath
Evalyn Wiley Frasch & Dave Frasch
Kathlyn & Donovan Geissler
Betsy McDougall - Gibbs
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Nancy & Carl Hanson-Rasmussen
Lynn Wilson & John Hertz
Lori Hitman
Mary Lou & Don Hoeschen
In Memory of Kay Tubbs
In Memory of Fred Winger
Robert Kuchta & Roberta Kuchta

Literacy Chippewa Valley

221 West Madison St.

Suite #6

Eau Claire, WI 54703

Thank You For Your Support!

"I never thought I'd get my diploma! Your classes in the jail have given me something to look forward to and be able to better myself."

-Edward

"I've gone long enough in my adulthood to know the importance of getting a GED and how this opportunity changes lives for the better. This class is a MUST! Thank you so much."

-Kate

"Literacy Chippewa Valley has shown me to never stop achieving goals, no matter your current situation. LCV and its educators guided me through personal growth for myself, my family, and my future. Thank you."

-Troy

"Class means new things to me, new language, new culture, new lifestyle and new opportunity. Because I live in the United States now I need to learn to be able to communicate with people"

-Chao

"I'd like to learn English so I can understand the people around me when my baby starts school. And so I can get a better job."

-Yorgelis

"Before enrolling in this class I was complacent with the bare minimum in all areas of my life. Since attending, I've been inspired and have come to realize that I'm more capable than I originally believed. I've learned to cultivate a deep desire to require more out of myself."

-Megan