



Adrian Rea Literacy Center

News

Accredited Member of ProLiteracy

Vol. 8 Summer 2016

ARLC

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Adrian Rea Literacy
Center is on Facebook

Dear Friends,

It hardly seems possible that we are completing eight years of service to adult learners in the Adrian area and beyond. Each year at this time we report our annual statistics and learner achievements. I am happy to report that we have assisted on all-time high of 142 learners during the 2015-16 academic year. Throughout the year learners' accomplishments in reading and writing are celebrated with "graduations" as they progress from level to level. In this newsletter tutors highlight day-to-day personal achievements of learners and give them well-deserved recognition.

An important goal of the Center this year has been to expand tutor training for and use of our computer programs which compliment reading and writing materials used by learners in individualized instruction. Thanks to Brenda Sparkman, our computer coordinator, we have had a **300% increase** in the number of visits to the computer lab for a total of **689 hours!**

I cannot say enough about our 115 volunteer tutors who every day, in every way, are willing to adapt to learners' needs and schedules, and for the past seven months, destruction and construction on our campus. They are amazing! Some of them even gave up a Saturday to help beautify our patio – see below. During the last six months we have welcomed nineteen new tutors who became certified, and who have already or will soon be placed with new registrants.

Our Center responded to the dire needs of learners at our sister Literacy Center in Flint, and we will continue to do so throughout the coming year. Sister Carol Weber, director of NEW Life Center and an Adrian Dominican, is distributing items for adult learners especially mothers with children who have been most affected by lead poisoning. Cans of tuna and salmon are needed to counter the lead in their systems, and diapers and baby wipes are a constant need. See the last page of the newsletter if you wish to make a donation to NEW Life.

To all of our donors, for in-kind or monetary gifts – THANK YOU a hundredfold! You are truly partners with us in our ministry to serve individuals most in need of literacy. Gratefully,
Sr. Carleen



Thank you Volunteer Tutors



Sister Joan Mary, Deborah Anderson, and Ablene Jureki (left to right) work on the clean up process.



June Elwell (above) gets rid of those difficult weeds. Trish Fanning (left) starts planting flowers in the boxes.



Adrian Rea Literacy Center 2015-2016 Annual Report

Served: Total learners: 142

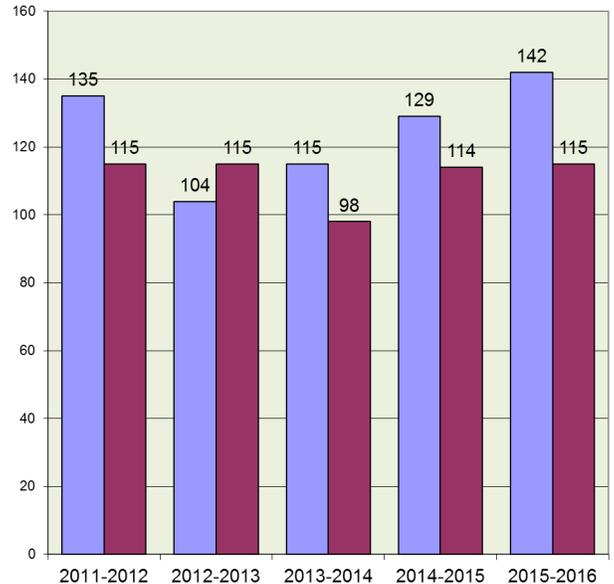
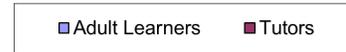
Female-61

Male-81

Diverse population:

- Spanish-speaking learners from four countries -
Columbia, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Venezuela
- Learners from two other countries -
Italy and Taiwan
- Caucasian learners

**Adrian Rea Literacy Center
Adult 5 Year Statistics**



Programs Offered: ESL Learners-132 Basic Literacy-10

Achievements:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 learned money values 107 advanced in learning 9 learned to budget, open bank acct. 5 prepared/obtained citizenship 3 registered to vote 4 studied pre GED material 13 got a better job 27 learned to use dictionary 18 filled out job application, doctor forms, etc 24 wrote a story or letter 15 read medical instructions 69 improved spelling skills 68 improved conversation skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 71 improved writing skills 75 improved comprehension skills 22 read Bible, menus, coupons, etc. 12 read newspaper for information 34 read to children 10 obtained driver's license 7 obtained library card 12 improved math skills 12 attended children's school meetings 4 learned cursive writing • Clocked 689 total hours on computers • 884 individual visits to computer lab |
|---|---|

Tutors' Comments About Their Learners:



“She has become much more confident in having a conversation in English.” *“He is very motivated and he comes to class early, always prepared.”* **“She has been very active in helping her daughter make financial arrangements to continue medical school.”** *“He has gotten more confident about using his English to talk to me during class and was very engaged when we used Rosetta Stone.”* **“She is an inspiration to me. She wishes to be able to read better for herself and learn more for her children’s sake.”**

“He tries very hard to comprehend what he has read.” **“She is an interested student who applies herself at each class. She is a hard worker.”** *“He could not perform his job requirements on the phone but with practice in class he is doing well with that now.”* **“We shared music tastes in both English and Spanish.”**



Tutors' Comments About Their Learners Continued.....



“He learned to write his signature in cursive.” “She always looks forward to learning something new.” **“He could read almost all of the menu from his restaurant and worked with me on pronunciation.”** *“We discussed how to communicate to her doctor. Her work supervisor put her in charge of determining co-workers break schedules so that the production line kept running smoothly.”* **“He used higher level vocabulary in paragraph writing. He understands English customers in the store and restaurant where he works.”** “We are spending a lot of time preparing for

her Naturalization/Citizenship.” **“Spelling is 100% better. He writes notes and texts to his boss now with confidence.”** “She is proficient in use of a cash register which she uses in her work place.” **“Even though he is shy to speak, he learns very quickly.”** “She had 98% accuracy on the 100 Citizenship questions we’re studying together.” “He is very highly motivated. He takes a day without pay to come to tutoring. He votes now—can read voting materials.” **“She is able to interpret feelings of characters in stories and can relate experiences in the stories to her own experiences.”** *“His employer promoted him to a higher position. He may be moved to a better schedule.”*



“She is a joy to work with. She has come a long way in the last six years. I think the world of her.” “He is using the computer to write a book—has finished 14 pages. Spelling has improved dramatically. Self esteem is improving.” **“He has a large reading vocabulary but does not always know what words mean. We’re making progress in that area.”** “She’s made rapid progress due to high motivation and previous English classes.” **“He works at a bakery and has shared recipes with me.”** “She often goes to doctor’s and dentist’s offices on her own, handles visits without an interpreter. Her independence has grown so much.” **“She is very easy to work with and listens well.”** “She gained confidence in talking with doctor and nurses for her prenatal visits. She wants to improve her conversational English, and uses Rosetta Stone for part of every class.” **“She has worked exceptionally hard and has succeeded above and beyond the work required.”** “She has enough English vocabulary now that she can guide the tutor in determining what word she needs to learn in English.” “She continues to be enthusiastic about learning English in spite of the many challenges in her life. Her work on the



computer often scores in the 90% range.” **“He has been a conscientious student. He is always on time, is attentive during our sessions and completes assigned homework.”** “It’s easier for her to converse with people and customers when ordering at the restaurant.” “She is always eager to share her children’s accomplishments and does so in English. Her young children are learning English, and she wants to keep up with them.”

Our Students write their stories . . .

Coming to America by R.O.

When I was 14 I came to the United States in March 2008. I walked for 4 days from Mexico to Phoenix, Arizona. I went by van to Chicago and met my father. After that, my father drove me to be with my mom and two brothers in Adrian, Michigan. I was very happy to see family again.



After 3 weeks my father put me in school. The first day I was in grade 8. I did not know one word of English. After a month I understood a little. In high school, I studied very hard and played on the soccer teams.

I started to work full time cleaning floors in a super market to help pay bills. I worked there for 2 years to help my mom, sister and brothers.

Why I Don't Like Winter by E.S.



I think all the seasons of the year are beautiful, but I'm going to talk about winter. I'm from Mexico where the weather is warm. So, when I arrived in this part of the United States, it was really difficult. This cold weather was too much for me. But I already had a job waiting for me. I thought about my family and I said to myself, "If you want to help your family and to have a better future, you have to stay here."

So, I started to work in a dairy farm, where I have continued working for thirteen years, even though I can't get accustomed to cold weather. That's why I don't like winter.

Book Report on Rosa Parks by E.P.

Rosa Parks was a civil rights activist who refused to surrender her bus seat to a white passenger spurring the Montgomery boycott and other efforts to end segregation.



I think Rosa Parks was a brave person who fought for her beliefs. She also educated herself to be a better person.

She is a good example for humanity; she worked for her beliefs and also for the community. To make a better world we have to work hard and try our best to learn something new every day. Rosa Parks provides incentive and encouragement to everyone.

The Hardest Decision Ever Made by P.C.

When I came to the United States, all the things were new for me. I learned to drive and work. But the most important was to speak English. Now I'm learning English. It is hard but not impossible. I'm really thankful with the United States. Sometimes I'm sad because my family is so far away.



and write . . .

In Memory of a Great Father by I.S.

His name is Juan, and he was born on August 13, 1942. He lived in Mexico City. He got married to an amazing woman and her name was Isabel. They had 7 kids, 6 girls and 1 boy.

He was an amazing dad. He worked so hard for us so we could be successful in life and taught us to be good people.

When I was on my way to the U.S I remember him telling me not to go because when I came back he wouldn't be there. I said to him, "no Dad you will be fine, we will see each other soon." Ever since then I called him at least three times a week so he wouldn't be sad or worried. He was always happy when I talked to him.

At age 60 the doctors diagnosed diabetes, and since then he treated it by fighting through it. Later on, it started becoming a problem. He had to go to the hospital 2-3 times a year because his sugar kept rising. Lastly he felt weaker. He was too tired to do anything. Next thing we knew he was laying in the hospital. February 11, 2016 they diagnosed pneumonia and he wasn't able to breathe very well. On February 13, 2016 he passed away.

I'm very sad I'm not able to see him or talk to him anymore, and not being able to say good bye. I know he is with the Lord God and is resting with Him. From above he is watching over me and all of my sisters and brother.

A message from me to my dad, "I ask for forgiveness, Dad, I wasn't there with you your last days. I'm always going to have you in my heart."



Tutors highlight special achievements of their Learners



*April 25, 2016—
"Felix is a new driver. He passed his driver's test and has his license now."*

Sister Joan Mary

April 25, 2016—"Marisela recently translated English to Spanish for her boss at work and a fellow co-worker. She was nervous to do it, but proud when she accomplished this!"

Lisa Long



*January 20, 2016—
"Horacio received a promotion to cook at his place of employment."*

Jeanne Hissong



*April 13, 2016
"Barry helped to cook lunch at the preschool and then read a book to the students."*

Connie Aichele

We Thank You

The Adrian Rea Literacy Center is a designated 501c3 non-profit educational program that provides one-to-one tutoring at no cost to our learners. We exist entirely on grant funding and donations. Therefore, our donors are a vital part of the Literacy Center and we are grateful for their support.

The following donors supported the Adrian Rea Literacy Center since

Donors

Anna L. Allison
Catherine and Frank Barrack
Kathleen and Leroy Betzoldt
Cynthia and Thomas Brennan
Sally and Barry Brooks
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Richard P. Woltman Donor Advised Fund at the
Rancho Santa Fe Foundation
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Maureen King

In Memory of:

Marie Damian, O.P. - Marilyn and Lawrence Angelo
John Delaney - Shirley and Don Clausen
Barbara Brand, Dula Brand, Marie Schoenlein, O.P.
-Rita and Mark Hoffman
Leona Wolf - Renata and Allen Snyder

In Honor of:

Sarah Cavanaugh, O.P. - Carole and Rolf Deutsch
Ann Fallon, O.P. - Elizabeth and Michael Howard
Anne Fallon, O.P. - Margery Livingston
Sister Jubilarians 2016
Jane Quirk, O.P.
Marie Luisa Vasquez, O.P.
Carleen Maly, O.P.

Multi-Year Grants

State of Michigan WIOA Fund
Hilda E. Bretzlaff Foundation, Inc
Toledo Community Foundation, Inc.
Maurice and Dorothy Stubnitz Foundation

IN-Kind: Time, Expertise, Snacks Supplies, Equipment, Books

Adrian District Library
Kathy Betzoldt
Julia Cazares
Pat Drabant
Evan Garno
Suann Hammersmith
Maria Ibarra
Barbara Kruger
Lenawee Community Agency
Jack Powell
Victoria Powell
Allen and Renata Snyder



Welcome to Our New Tutors

January 29 & 30, 2016 Workshop



Nick Blumenau, Claire Davis, Pat Drabant, Courtney Edgar, Pauline Gross, Lisa Hart, Cindy Kopp, Lois Morris, Juanita Pinkerton, Suzanne Stout pictured with Sisters Carleen, Mary & Joanne and Brenda Sparkman

April 29 & 30, 2016 Workshop

Lauren Ashline, Miguel Margarito Avila, Mary Collins, Jody Denske, Jack Georgal, Mike McAuliffe, Teresa Nuber, Tom Shrock, and Caroline Schwartz with Sisters Carleen, Mary & Joanne and Brenda Sparkman



We Reached Out to N.E.W. Life Center in Flint



We start gathering items



We receive more donations

Grand Totals Delivered

Cans of Tuna	577
Cans of Salmon	179
Boxes of Diapers	101
Pkg's of Wipes	217



Packed up and ready to go



DELIVERY DAY

Thank you to all who donated: our Tutors, Learners, and Staff, Adrian Dominican Campus Community, St. John Lutheran Church and St. Joseph Catholic Parish

Adrian Rea Literacy Center
 Open 8:00 am- 8:00 pm Monday through Thursday
 2016-2017 Calendar Highlights

July	1 25-29	2016-2017 Term Begins Summer Break—No Classes
August	1-5 8	Summer Break—No Classes Classes Resume
September	5 16 & 17 20	Labor Day—No Classes Tutor Workshop Board Meeting
November	15 23 & 24	Board Meeting Thanksgiving Break
December/Jan	22-2 3	Christmas Break Classes Resume

**Donations for New Life Center
 can be made to:**

**Sister Carol Weber
 3202 Forest Hill Ave.
 Flint, MI 48504-2654
 Phone: 810-239-8710**

ARLC Wish List . . . items we can always use

Individually Wrapped Hard Candy
 1 inch 3-Ring Binders
 White Boards (8-1/2 x 11)
 Dry-Erase Markers
 Paper Coffee Cups
 Paper Cold Drink Cups

Beginning our ninth
 year of service!



Adrian Rea Literacy Center

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