



ANNUAL REPORT

2018



THE MISSION:
TO STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY
BY TEACHING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND A VARIETY
OF LITERACY SKILLS TO PEOPLE OF ALL CULTURES



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David Williams

General Counsel,
Ameritas (ret.), LL Tutor

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Lic. Mental Health Practitioner (ret.),
Artist, LL Tutor

Second Vice President

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Business Owner,
Spats to Spurs Vintage

Secretary

Mike Eppel, M.D.

Physician, (ret.)
LL Tutor

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Dave Barnhouse

Credit Union Manager,
State Farm Insurance (ret.)

GATEWAY SKILLS

Opening the Pathway to Opportunity

How Lincoln Literacy Brings Its Mission to Life

As I wrap up my term as president of the board, I'm more excited than ever about this organization. Harnessing the good will of volunteers and the eagerness of our learners, Lincoln Literacy makes an amazing difference in the lives of the people it engages and the community it serves. As I know from my own experience as a volunteer tutor, the people we serve have had rich life experiences and many have skills and talents that can meet community needs if only they gain the language and literacy skills needed to throw open the gates. As I write, our first group of CNA students are about to graduate and become certified nursing assistants. They are just one group among many who are building their skills with the help of our tutors.

-- David Williams

Board of Directors 2018-2019

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		Diane Wilson



2018 SERVICES & ACHIEVEMENTS



A YEAR OF CONTINUITY AND CHANGE

Refugee resettlement and fresh immigration may have stalled, but refugees and immigrants remain a vital part of our community. In 2018 we continued to offer dozens of free English language classes and literacy tutoring sessions throughout the week at locations all over the city, along with our FLAIR classes for kids. But, in response to emerging community needs, we also introduced many innovative new approaches and services. Here we highlight a few.

CNA Prep Class: Bridging the Skills Gap

Responding to the needs of our adult learners and our community, Lincoln Literacy has initiated a CNA prep class. With generous funding from the Community Health Endowment and in collaboration with Bryan Health and its College of Health Sciences, we have jointly enrolled refugees, asylees, and immigrants to help them become certified nursing assistants. The first six completed our prep program in 2018 and went on to enroll in Bryan College's accredited class to become certified nursing aides.

Adult Empowerment Programs

During 2018, we restructured and expanded our adult literacy offerings. With the hiring of Renee Cox, MSW, we launched new GED prep classes and laid plans to offer other skill-building opportunities to English speakers and English learners alike.

Blended Learning and the Challenge of Digital Literacy

Opportunities to learn online are exploding, but a person can only take advantage if they have access and know how to make use of it. We introduced technology into our classes at every level, and pointed the way to safe use.

320

**VOLUNTEER TUTORS
IN SERVICE**

943

**TOTAL ADULT
LEARNERS SERVED**

190

CHILDREN SERVED

381

**NEW ADULT
LEARNERS ENROLLED**

LINCOLN LITERACY CHANGES LIVES FOREVER



Student Story

How can a woman who never had the chance to go to school consider herself lucky? Khani Sharo does. She and her husband Naif are among the fortunate few Yezidis who not only escaped the genocidal attacks of ISIS but were accepted as refugees into the United States. Since arriving in 2016, they've made good use of their time since — especially Khani. Attending our classes at Belmont Elementary, held as part of an LPS family literacy program there, she blossomed.

In just four months, she learned two years' worth of English, and went on to win the Mayor's Award for Language and Literacy Achievement.

"I didn't know anything," Khani said. "I didn't even know how to write my own name." In accepting the award, Khani was able to read from a hand-written statement that she composed to thank her teachers. Quite an achievement.

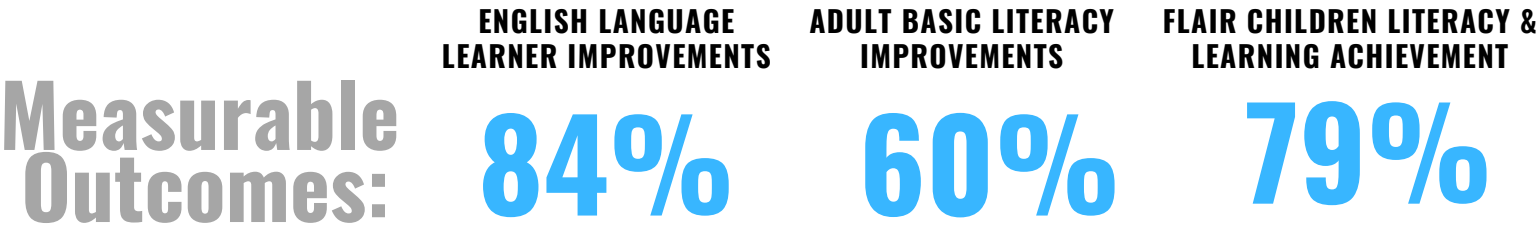
Tutor Story

When we launched our CNA prep class, we never imagined we'd have experts at the helm. We thought we would have to rely heavily on textbooks and online resources. But to our astonishment, we launched class with a volunteer tutor crew consisting of a physician, a nurse, and a CNA. Mike Eppel, Cindy Sandeen, and Sarah Rogalla have since been joined by other medical professionals in this remarkable class.

Mike Eppel continues to lead the way. Doctors are notoriously busy, but the gastroenterologist started volunteering at Lincoln Literacy in 2007, when he was still working full-time in his practice. He's continued to tutor ever since, and has used some of his vacations to provide medical assistance in Haiti and most recently to Ryohinga refugees in Burma. He also serves on the Lincoln Literacy board.



Dr. Mike Eppel tutors Tsedey Gizaw of Ethiopia.



VOLUNTEERS

Our services would not be possible without our wonderful, dedicated volunteers. The warm, mentor-like relationships our tutors build with our students help unify our community and leave lifelong impacts on learners and volunteers alike. We truly appreciate all of our tutors who make a lasting impact on their students and help Lincoln Literacy achieve its mission. Our thanks to every one of them.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Lincoln Literacy's widely varying partnerships across the community give us unmatched reach to New Americans of all ages and to low-literacy or under-skilled adults, whether in churches, schools, businesses, community centers, or the county jail. Our partners provide valuable resources such as classrooms, volunteers, funding, and expertise. We would also be unable to accomplish our mission without their warm-hearted collaboration, assistance, and generous support. We thank them all.

American Lutheran Church
Ameritas Charitable Foundation
Asian Cultural & Community Center
Bryan Health
The Cooper Foundation
Community Health Endowment
Duncan Family Trust
F Street Rec Center
First Lutheran Church
First Presbyterian Church
First Plymouth Church
Good Neighbor Center
Goodwill
Grace Lutheran Church
The Hub for Young Adults

Lancaster County Corrections
Li-Cor
Lincoln City Libraries
Lincoln Community Foundation
Lincoln Public Schools
Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach
Neb. Dept. of Health & Humans Services
Saint Paul United Methodist Church
The Sherwood Foundation
Southeast Community College
TMCO
Union Pacific Foundation
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln
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Thank you.

Lincoln Literacy is grateful to each and every one of our donors. Their generosity gives us the means to expand our services and strengthen our community at a time of dwindling federal support. To see a full list of our donors, please go online to:

www.lincolnliteracy.org/donors

2018 DONORS

\$5,000+

- Mike Hemmer & Lori Raphael
- Roland & Hiroko Temme
- Estate of Warren Urbom
- Goodwill Industries
- Lincoln Community Foundation
- Anonymous
- Dave & Maruta Barnhouse
- Robert Hillestad
- Sherwood Foundation
- Lee and Debbie Stuart Family Foundation
- Duncan Family Trust

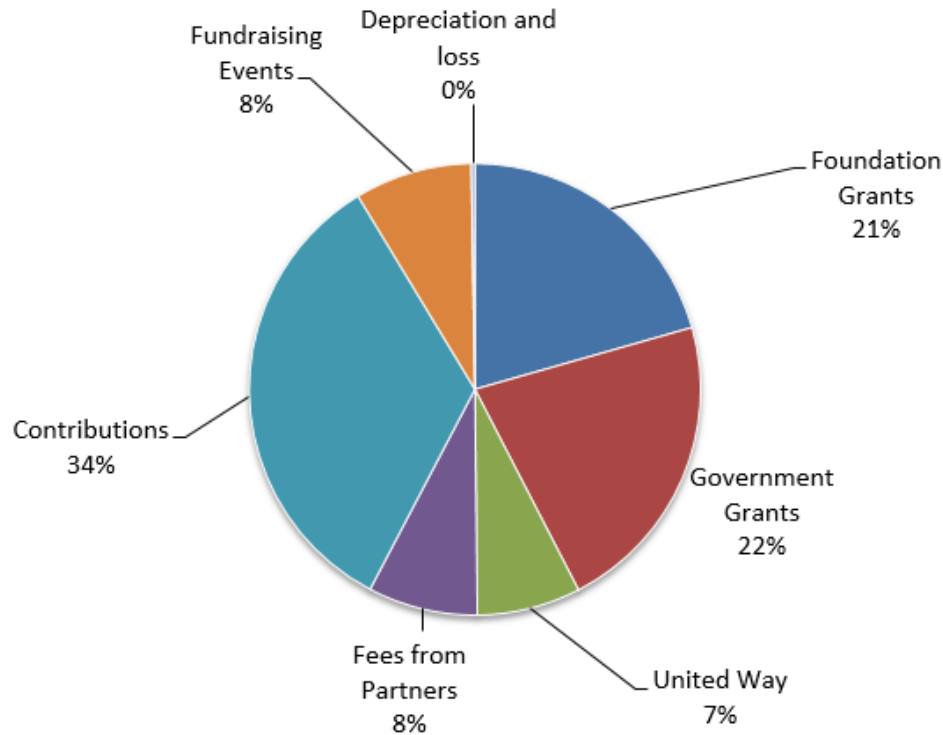
\$1,000-\$4,999

- | | |
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| John & Nancy Wiederspan | ... and many others! |
| United Way donors | See box at left. |
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 - Southern Heights Presbyterian Church
 - Marlene & Sheppard Perkins
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FINANCIAL REPORT

2018 Income By Source

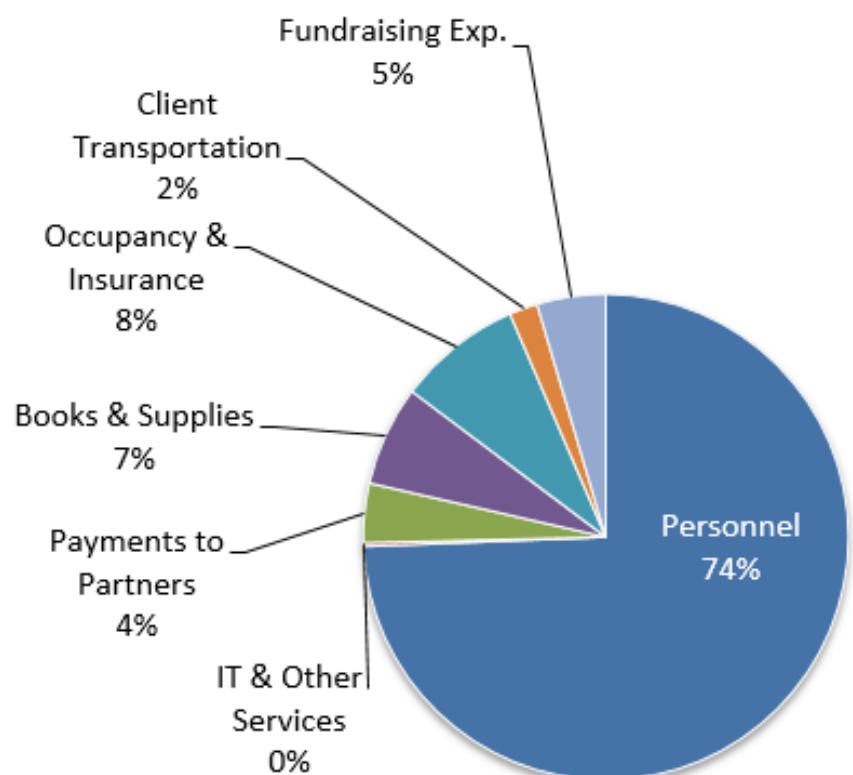
INCOME



Foundation Grants	\$118,758
Government Grants	\$125,849
United Way	\$42,852
Fees from Partners	\$45,350
Contributions	\$194,012
Fundraising Events	\$48,459
Depreciation and loss	-\$1,537
Total	\$573,743

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$406,204
IT & Other Services	\$1,300
Payments to Partners	\$21,559
Books & Supplies	\$36,454
Occupancy & Insurance	\$45,276
Client Transportation	\$10,288
Fundraising Exp.	\$25,020
Total	\$546,101



2018 Lincoln Literacy Staff:

Clayton Naff, Executive Director

Donna Stadig, Associate Director

Victoria Welles, Training & Development Manager

Sandra Rojo, ELL Programs Manager

Renee Cox, Adult Empowerment Program Manager

Xiaomei Guo, Accounting Manager

Rik Minnick, Program Coord. & Administrative Asst.

Shawn Williams, Child & Family Programs Manager

Caryn Friesen, Data Coordinator

Joyce Hahn, Tutor Training Coordinator

Lori Nietschmann, ELL Program Coordinator

Arlenne Rodriguez, Intake & Assessment Asst.

Ngoc Tran, ELL One-to-One Coordinator

Karla Lara Fitz, FLAIR Teacher

Carmen Claesson, ELL Coordinator

Shannon Nolte, ELL Coordinator

Nick Svoboda, ELL Coordinator

Ahmed Hameed, Van System Supervisor
& Cultural Liaison

Jaafar Hamad, Van Driver

Saad Obaid, Van Driver



745 South 9th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508



United Way
of Lancaster County



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