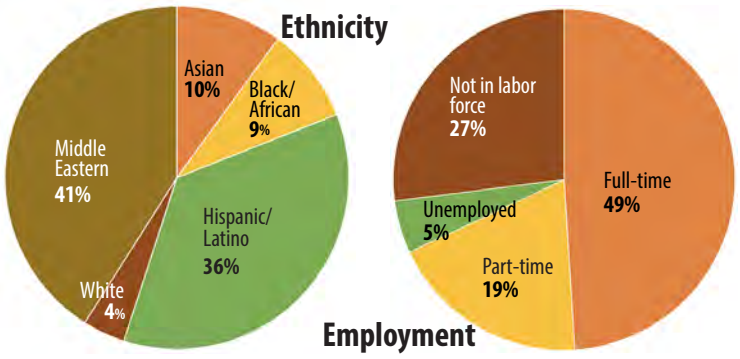
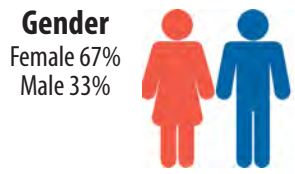
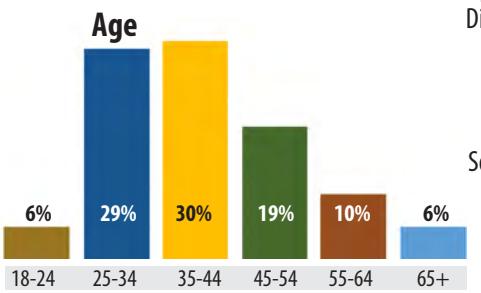
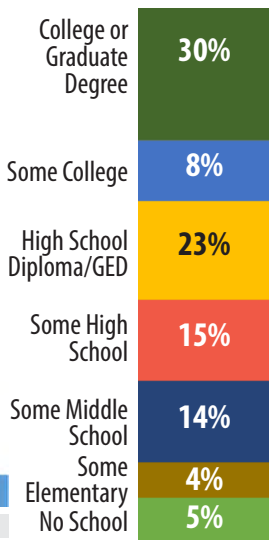
Student Demographics









English Broadens Lives

At Literacy Volunteers, volunteers know they are changing lives, "one word at a time."

We see this with Mike and Ronal working side-by-side on citizenship and English. Ronal manages a thriving local restaurant and wants to better communicate with his customers. Another student has seen how his studies have enabled him to be more comfortable in the community. His boss even calls him up to translate for others. His next goal? Improving reading so he can earn a license to return to his profession as an auto mechanic.

LVCA student Yunyan (Maria) spent the first three years of her life in the United States feeling isolated. This past year, she enrolled in English classes, including tutoring and the LVCA writing class. "My teachers all push me in different ways," she says. When she first started the writing class she wondered, "Can I do this? Can I write articles? But my patient teacher Caren always said, 'You can.' I went from 2 sentences. I increased to 4 sentences. Little by little, I found that I can write more sentences."

Little by little, confidence blooms. Conversations get easier. Community grows. Yunyan's tutor Byron sees this. "Her circle has widened as she has pushed from her street, to her neighborhood, to the wider city of Charlottesville," he says. "She's physically doing what her mind is doing: she is moving herself forward constantly," one word at a time.


Hani, Maria, and Martina

From Sea to Shining Sea

From Washington state to New York City, LVCA's citizenship curriculum is reaching learners nationwide. Citizenship Coordinator Catherine McCall developed the curriculum specifically for English Language Learners and updated it in 2026 to reflect USCIS's 128 new civics questions. Supported by free YouTube practice videos, the new edition has been purchased in 45 communities across 11 states since January 2026.

Blue Ridge Literacy adopted the curriculum for its practical, accessible approach to citizenship preparation. Executive Director Dr. Ahoo Salem praised its ease of use, while Amanda Brumbaugh, Program Coordinator of Literacy Volunteers of Winchester Area, noted that the books, videos, and slides simplify teaching for volunteer instructors.

For more than fifteen years, LVCA has refined its citizenship program, achieving a 98% naturalization interview pass rate. The curriculum extends that expertise beyond the local community. As Executive Director Ellen M. Osborne says, "LVCA isn't merely serving more people; it is exporting expertise"—turning knowledge gained from adult learners into tools now used across the country.

Volunteer Time



How Volunteer Time is Spent

- Direct Instructional Hours: **10,927**
- Planning & Travel: **7,266**
- Training: **931**
- Non-Tutor Volunteer Hours: **1,922**

Total Number of Volunteer Hours: **21,046**

Scan the QR code and read Yunyan (Maria) Cai's essay

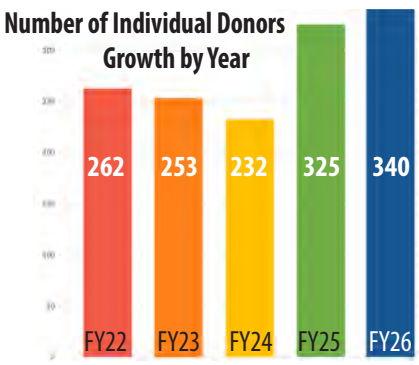
"She brings her own intensity. There's always a 'why' question that's lurking. She doesn't want to just understand the surface."
—Byron (Tutor)

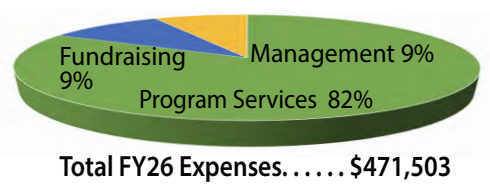

Byron and Yunyan

Our Vision

All adults will have the ability to understand, speak, read, write, and communicate in English so that they can fully participate in our community.

Grassroots Community Support





Total FY26 Expenses. $471,503

Complete financial statements available by calling the office or visiting www.literacyforall.org/news-and-publications


Leslie and Stella

"When I have a conversation with my tutor, it helps me a lot to train my ears for listening to English." —Stella, LVCA student

Types of Student Learning

- **One-to-One Tutoring** 10,407 hours
- **Class Instruction** 2,402 hours
- **Computer-based** 893 hours
- **Small group** 748 hours

Follow us on social media

YouTube

and subscribe to our e-newsletter

The Volunteer Experience

The primary sources of new volunteers are "word of mouth" (friends or other tutors) and internet searches.

94% of volunteer tutors report that they **feel supported** by the staff

91 tutors strengthened their skills through optional **in-service professional development** workshops

21 **volunteer connection events** fostered community

Donate today!

www.literacyforall.org

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS
OF CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE



Bahie and Caroline

"I enjoy being part of this organization because there are a lot of workshops and opportunities to learn how to be a better tutor. I feel like I'm always learning because I'm working here as a volunteer."

—Caroline, LVCA tutor

FY26 IMPACT REPORT

July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026

Numbers at a Glance

- Number of students: **358**
- Number of tutors: **266**
- Type of students served:
  Basic Literacy **3%**
  English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) **97%**
- Number of volunteer hours: **21,046**
- Economic value of volunteered hours: **$778,491**

Our Mission: Changing Lives, One Word at a Time

LVCA promotes adult literacy through equitable, inclusive, free, confidential, one-to-one English and Citizenship tutoring.

Literacy Volunteers of Charlottesville/Albemarle
233 4th Street NW, Ste L
Charlottesville, VA 22903



Mike and Ronal

"I love the United States. I love freedom."
—Ronal, LVCA student

Address Panel

Moving Forward
One Word at a Time

Student Outcomes and Achievements

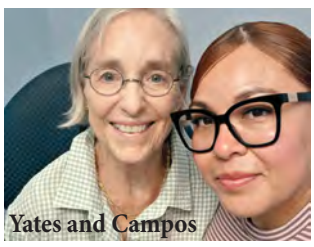


Tyrone and Jeanne

- **26** **Entered employment** or got a better job
- **49** Improved **employability skills**
- **60** Entered other **education and/or training**
- **135** Met a **work-related goal**
- **3** **Voted** or **registered to vote** for the first time
- **12** Obtained a **driver's license**
- **69** Increased **involvement in community activities**
- **59** Increased **involvement in children's education**
- **98** Met a **digital literacy goal**
- **109** Met a wellness or **health goal**
- **15** Passed the **citizenship interview**

"We're making a difference in people's lives. I see remarkable difference in my student. She speaks more clearly and correctly. She's reading at a much higher level."

—Yates, LVCA tutor



Yates and Campos