

LITERACY TRANSFORMS LIVES!

Literacy Builds Confidence

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

Our Adult Basic Education (ABE) program is designed to help adults improve their reading, writing, math, and computer skills so they can achieve their goals. The program offers one-on-one tutoring at convenient locations across Chatham County.

Barry M. is a husband, father, and grandfather who has been working on improving his reading and writing skills. In the short time of one year, Barry's reading jumped

three grade levels. Barry's workplace recently automated their equipment. Tutoring at Chatham Literacy helped improve Barry's reading skills, allowing him to more easily learn and utilize the new equipment. Barry said, "They have new machines and you have to be able to read the instructions on the screens. Some of the guys who couldn't adjust were let go, but not me!"



Barry M.

Literacy Opens Doors

ADULT SECONDARY EDUCATION

Our Adult Secondary Education (ASE) program provides individualized tutoring to prepare for the GED, to reinforce or gain work-related skills, to prepare for and support vocational studies, and to prepare for higher education. Instruction is tailored to meet the student's needs and schedule.

Maria H. is originally from Vera Cruz Mexico, and lives with her husband in Siler City. Maria is an extremely motivated student who completed her GED last

November via SKYPE, while at the same time keeping up with two toddlers at home. Currently Maria is learning English through the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program, and has completed training in the use of computers. Her goal is to obtain an associate's degree in early childhood education.



Maria H.

Literacy Cultivates Inclusion

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

Also referred to as English as a Second Language (ESL), our ESOL program is designed for adults who desire to read, write, understand, and speak English.

Alma T. is from Mexico and lives in Siler City with her husband and three children. Alma has a growing homebased cake-making business. The ESOL program is helping her to better communicate with her clients and to expand her client-base.

More importantly, it allows her to assist her children with their homework and their learning, and to communicate with her children's teachers. Alma's goal is to become more proficient at reading and writing, and to converse fluently.



Alma T.

Literacy Strengthens Skill Sets

SOFT SKILLS TRAINING

Our workforce soft skills program helps employees, under-employed individuals, and the unemployed to learn the "soft skills" that are expected of them in the workplace (i.e.: communication, teamwork, networking, problem solving, critical thinking, understanding cultural differences, and professionalism).

Maria P. was hired as a housekeeper at Galloway Ridge. Maria shared, "I can see how important it is to have a tutor that teaches you the skills needed to succeed." Prior to interviewing, Maria participated in Chatham Literacy's workforce soft skills training. She reported that the training was very helpful and gave her the confidence she needed when applying for jobs. Maria is married with two young boys and a



Maria P.

daughter in college. She continues to tutor weekly in ESOL.

“An educated population is the foundation of improving the public's health.”

– Layton Long, Jr., Health Director of Chatham County Public Health Department

Literacy Gives You A Voice

CITIZENSHIP

Our citizenship program offers preparation classes for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization test for those desiring to become a U.S. citizen.

It is uncommon for an entire family to rally behind each other to achieve a major goal. This was the case for five members of one family who enlisted Chatham Literacy to help them obtain their U.S. Citizenship. It started with Agustin M. and Maria V. who emigrated to the U.S. from Guanajuato Mexico with their daughter Elena. The parents obtained their citizenship in 2015, with Elena receiving hers a year later. Elena's husband, Alejandro V., who emigrated to the U.S. from Tamaulipas Mexico, just became a U.S. citizen this year, along with his sister, Estela M. The couple is raising their four children, with



Alejandro V. and family

Elena as a stay-home mom, and Alejandro working as a cabinet maker. Becoming U.S. Citizens helps them to remain together as a family, and to be active participants in their adopted country.

“There is no better strength for a community than in the literacy and education of its people.”

– Sheriff Mike Roberson, Chatham County

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

251
adult learners served

184
improved their conversation skills

79
improved their job skills

59
received training in workforce soft skills

35
improved their literacy by three grades

32
became engaged in their child's education

18
became U.S. citizens

12
obtained a job or received a promotion

89
volunteer tutors

6,200
hours of instruction

Collaboration on the Horizon

The Learning Institute ("Instituto de Aprendizaje") is a multi-generational pilot program to link adult literacy learning with facilitated parent engagement opportunities. Participation will promote positive relationships within and between families, between parents and educators, and among local service organizations to strengthen individual and community assets for family stability. To support this pilot program in FY 2016/17, Chatham Literacy and Chatham Communities in Schools received a collaborative grant from United Way of Chatham County, Chatham County, and Triangle Community Foundation as well as a grant from Chatham Reads.



Kim Caraganis, ED of Chatham CIS and Vicki Newell

“Literacy is important in all aspects of economic development.”

– Cindy Poindexter, President/CEO, Chatham County Chamber of Commerce

Partners put community spotlight on literacy

Our deepest thanks to these partners for providing space, referrals and collaborations that enable Chatham Literacy to serve students across the county.

580 Craft Beer
Aggie Technologies
Amazon Smile Foundation
Bella Donna Italian Restaurant
Carolina Meadows
Carrboro-Chapel Hill Sunrise Rotary Club
Central Carolina Community College - Pittsboro and Siler City
Chatham Business Services, Inc.
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Chatham Child Development Center
Chatham Community Library
Chatham County Partnership for Children
Chatham Education Foundation
Chatham Habitat for Humanity
Chatham Homes Realty
Chatham Hospital
Chatham Reads
Chatham Transit Network
Chatham YMCA
Christ United Methodist Church

Circle City Books & Music
Cole Park Veterinary Hospital
Communities in Schools of Chatham County
CORA Food Pantry
Enchanting Smiles Family Dentistry
Envested
Executive Service Corps of the Greater Triangle
First United Methodist Church
Galloway Ridge at Fearrington
Governors Club
Koonce, Wooten, & Haywood
Lacey Springs Designs
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Nature Trail
NCWorks Career Center - Chatham
New Karma for Old Threads
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SunTrust Bank in Pittsboro
The Ambassadors
The Hispanic Liaison
The Real Housewives of Chatham County
Vino Wine Shop
West Chatham Food Pantry
Western Chatham Senior Center
Wren Memorial Library

A special thanks to Lacey Springs Designs for the design and layout of this annual report.

Take Action: Donate!

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, Chatham Literacy is expanding its free adult literacy programming and helping more adult learners each year. There are many ways you can help. All donations are tax-deductible.

MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE FINANCIAL GIFT

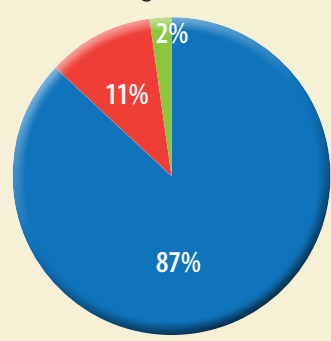
- mail to Chatham Literacy, P.O. Box 1696
Pittsboro, NC 27312
- online at www.chathamliteracy.org
- or through planned giving

DONATE SPACE: Share safe classroom space in your business, church or agency.

SHOP FOR LITERACY! Shop online through AmazonSmile.com or iGive.com and they will donate a percentage of the price of your eligible purchases to Chatham County Literacy Council - at no extra cost to you!

FY2016-17 EXPENSES \$157,750

- Direct Services \$136,835
- Management/General \$16,682
- Fundraising \$4,233



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Chatham Reads
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Dollar General Literacy Foundation
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Galloway Ridge at Farrington
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SunTrust Foundation
Triangle Community Foundation's
Capacity Building Partnerships
Program for Community Development
United Way of Chatham County
Wells Fargo Foundation
Women of Farrington
Wren Foundation



Renowned Southern author, Lee Smith enchanted the audience at the Spring for Literacy Luncheon.



A literate and engaged community is essential to job growth and the success of Siler City and Chatham County.

— Mayor John Grimes, Siler City

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO VOLUNTEER ON CHATHAM LITERACY'S COMMITTEES:

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Spring for Literacy, Spring 2017

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2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT



From the Executive Director

It's been quite an amazing year. Chatham Literacy's outreach has grown substantially, and it continues to expand. There are many stories to tell - student successes, volunteer tutor engagement, and community involvement - all of which wouldn't be possible without the generosity of the many businesses, organizations, foundations, and individuals who continue to support our efforts.

Literacy and education are universal keys to the success of our community. Unfortunately, many cannot get ahead because they struggle to read and write

or do not speak English. Some cannot get a job or promotion because they did not graduate from high school or they are not a U.S. citizen. This is where Chatham Literacy can help. This is where you can help.

As in past reports, we will give you the numbers. And we also want to show you the faces, the faces of success, the success of our community...of your community.

Enjoy the read!

Sincerely, Vicki Newell, Executive Director



Chatham Literacy Staff: Bookkeeper Denise Lynch, Student Coordinator Loyda Estrada, Volunteer Coordinator Desiree Cho, and Executive Director Vicki Newell

Mission Statement

Chatham Literacy helps adults, living or working in Chatham County, N.C., acquire the literacy and educational skills they need to function successfully in society.

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