



# Annual Report 2017

**Our Mission:** Literacy Council of the Black Hills is a volunteer-based 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization providing free, individualized tutoring and group conversation classes in English to help people meet their personal goals and enhance their contributions to the community.

**What we do:** We train volunteers and provide adults with free, individualized tutoring in basic reading, writing and speaking, and we hold conversation classes for English language learners.

## Demographics:

Employees: 1 part-time

Volunteers: **66 volunteers, a 16.7 % increase from 2016**

Volunteer hours, tutoring: 862 January through October

Volunteer hours, no-tutoring: 1546 January through October

Total volunteer hours: 2408 January through October

Students: **83 total; 71 tutored students, a 22.6% increase from 2016; 12 conversation class only students**

Tutored ESL students: 62, or 87%; Tutored ABE students: 9, or 13%

Male students: 22, or 31%; Female students: 49, or 69%

Countries of origin: Mexico, Panama, Nepal, Israel, Iran, Japan, China, Turkey, Honduras, South Korea, Puerto Rico, Poland, Ukraine, Pakistan, Peru, Brazil, Chile, Taiwan, Okinawa, Columbia

Number of students who have children under the age of 18: 19, or 26%

## Student goals:

- Find a job: 24%
- Write a resume, prepare for job interview: 35%
- Perform a job better, obtain a license or certificate: 39%
- Obtain a library card and check out materials: 39%
- Write checks and pay bills: 31%
- Health education, reading medicine labels: 42%
- Plan nutritious meals: 18%
- Read a book with a child, help with homework: 28%
- Interact with teachers: 18%
- Community involvement, volunteer: 43%
- Obtain a driver's license: 27%
- Speaking, writing, grammar improvement: 100%

## **Community collaboration:**

**Rapid City Public Library** provides phone referrals, houses resources, and provides space for tutoring, training, meetings and events.

**Career Learning Center** shares resources, provides feedback, and offers referrals for those of low reading levels (0 to 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading, writing and speaking), and for learners who can only meet at off hours or need extra help outside CLC hours.

**Catholic Social Services** provides the council with a filing cabinet to store documents and board materials.

**Blessed Sacrament Church** offers support and referrals for their large Hispanic congregation.

**United Way's Campaign for Grade Level Reading** serves children.

**Rapid City Area Schools** serves children; an area of literacy council interest is serving family literacy.

**Youth and Family Services** provides rides for some students to the library and tutoring sessions.

**Readiatrics Project** provides the council with children's books to give our students.

**Rotary International Clubs** provides financial and volunteer support.

**American Association of University Women** provides financial and volunteer support.

**Altrusa Club** provides financial and volunteer support.

**Retired Senior Volunteer Programs Plus** provides referrals of people interesting in becoming tutors.

## **Support Organizations:**

**United Way**

**John T. Vucurevich Foundation**

**ProLiteracy**

## **Assessments:**

- Use of goal sheets for each student
- Achievement of individual goals reviewed periodically
- BEST Plus literacy evaluation tests
- Student and tutor assessments of curriculum materials, tutor training sessions, tutor talks and conversation classes