

# 2022 Annual Report

January – November 17, 2022

Prepared by Jenn Utecht, Program Coordinator

**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.

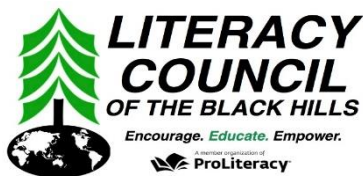
**What we do:** We train volunteers and provide adults with free, individualized tutoring in basic reading, writing and speaking, and we hold conversation classes for English language learners.

## Demographics:

- Employees: 1 part-time Program Coordinator
- Volunteers: 48 active volunteers / 5 inactive volunteers
- Volunteer tutoring hours (January through October 2022): 1,015
- Volunteer non-tutoring hours (January through October 2022): 1,408
- Total volunteer hours (January through October 2022): 2,423
- Total students served: 54
- Tutored ESL students: 53 ESL students (98%), 1 tutored ABE student (2%)
- Tutored students: 45 female students (83%), 9 male students (17%)
- Countries of Origin (20): Bangladesh, Brazil, China (4), Columbia (2), Guatemala (3), Honduras (3), Iran (2), Kazakhstan, Mexico (11), Mongolia (2), Pakistan, Peru, Philistines, Puerto Rico (2), South Korea, Thailand (3), Ukraine (15), USA, Venezuela, Vietnam
- Number of individually tutored students who have children under the age of 18: 16 (30%)
- Number of Conversation Class students who have children under the age of 18: 5 (9%)

## Student Goals (out of 35 individually-tutored students):

- Improve work or school related reading and writing – **80%**
- Improve English conversation – **57%**
- Become a citizen of the United States – **43%**
- Obtain a library card and check out materials – **37%**
- Obtain a driver's license – **34%**
- Interact with teachers – **34%**
- Get a job or a better job – **34%**
- Become involved in community activities – 31%
- Obtain a license or certificate – 29%
- Write a resume / prepare for job interview – 26%
- Read a book to a child / help with homework – 26%
- Health education / reading medication labels – 20%
- Write checks, pay bills – 17%
- Perform job tasks better – 11%



# 2021 Annual Report

## Community Resources:

**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.

**Blessed Sacrament Church** offers financial support, meeting location and referrals for their large Hispanic congregation.

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

## Supporting Organizations:

**United Way**

**John T. Vucurevich Foundation**

**ProLiteracy**

**Black Hills Area Community Foundation**

## Training and Assessments:

- Use of goal sheets for each student; achievement of individual goals reviewed bi-annually
- Online self-paced training through ProLiteracy; in-person tutor training provided by LCBH volunteers
- Student placement assessments that align with the curriculum materials
- Monthly and bimonthly Board of Director meetings who continuously evaluate the program
- Program Coordinator attended the ProLiteracy conference for additional training and ideas for improvement.

## Highlights for 2022:

- 4 in-person tutor trainings offered resulting in 24 new tutors trained (22 retained = 92%)
- 25 new students between June – November
- Over 30 new students served in 2022 (through Nov. 15)
- Conversation Classes ran throughout the year serving over 25 students.
- Program Coordinators public speaking engagements with Rotary & Spearfish Kuwanis
- Promotions: Newscenter1 ran a story, a PSA was created to advertise for LCBH
- Annual picnic on 9/11 to celebrate Literacy Day; over 80 in attendance. Students shared their writing to demonstrate their growth in literacy skills.
- Multiple transitions: program coordinators, board and committee members, resource manager, students, tutors. The LCBH is always evolving, but our mission remains the same: **provide tutoring in English to help people meet their personal goals and enhance their contributions to the community.**