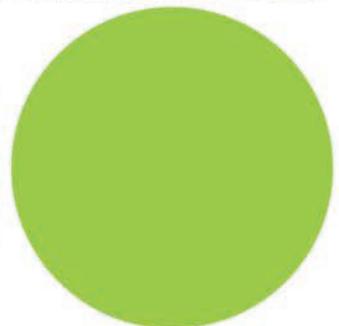
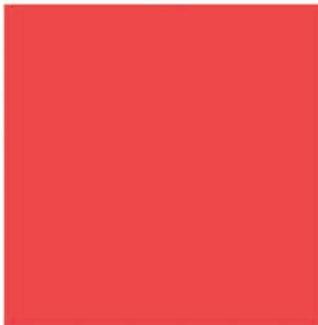
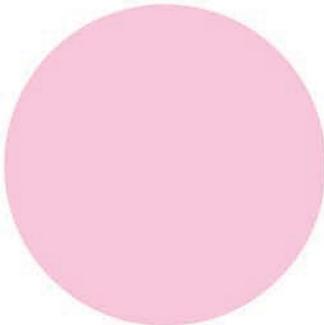
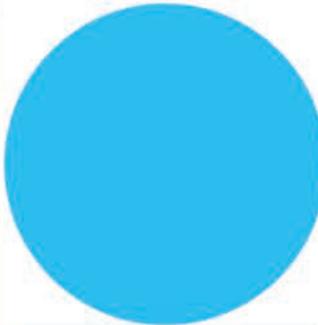
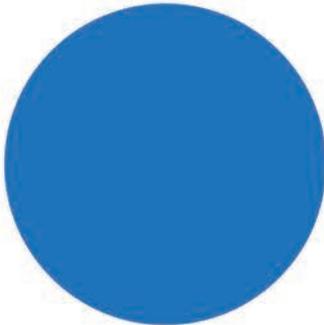
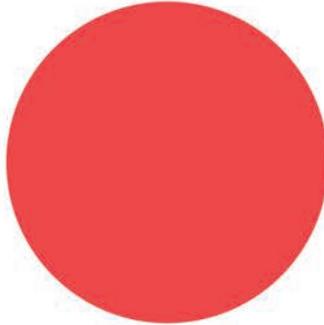


LITERACY NETWORK



2025
IMPACT REPORT
GENERATION
TO GENERATION

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WHAT A COMMUNITY!

I feel lucky to live here in the Berkshires after stumbling into a career, meeting and marrying my husband, and finding the old farmhouse that is still our home. I'm lucky that our children will always say that they're from the Berkshires. And I'm lucky that the indomitable Mary Spina (LitNet's former Education Coordinator) asked me, some twenty years ago, why I wasn't volunteering with LitNet yet. I met my first learner a few days later.



Pamela Breslin (second from right) with her family and friends, Jean & Peter Whitehead.

She, a young woman from the Dominican Republic, had arrived at the Pittsfield bus terminal not knowing whether to go up the street or down it. She and her three small children didn't speak English or have any close connections here. Twenty years later, they are American citizens. She is a trained, bilingual advocate for the immigrant community; her children have completed various degree programs and work hard in good, steady jobs. It didn't happen overnight, but now they all proudly belong to this community.

In light of LitNet's 2025 Generation to Generation theme, I've been thinking about how a strong community like ours welcomes newcomers and helps them build lives. The beauty of being part of this community is feeling that we belong. LitNet, now celebrating its thirty-fifth year, is part of the generous, inclusive continuity that shapes this support.

My son has been tutoring a young man from Colombia for two years. Luke recently asked him about his hopes for his son, born just a year ago. While his life before arriving here had held little promise and few opportunities, now he confidently predicts, "My baby will have those chances for me."

Another LitNet family, a mother and her adult daughter from Peru, recently spoke with me about living in the Berkshires. Both recipients of the Keator Family Scholarship for New Americans, they talked about their connections here through their jobs, church, school and neighbors. Each woman feels valued at work and secure in her home, comforts they hadn't experienced before.

LitNet has introduced me to so many good people: tutors, supporters, and especially, learners. Thank you for standing up for LitNet as it keeps growing and adapting to the needs of the times.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pam".

Pamela Breslin

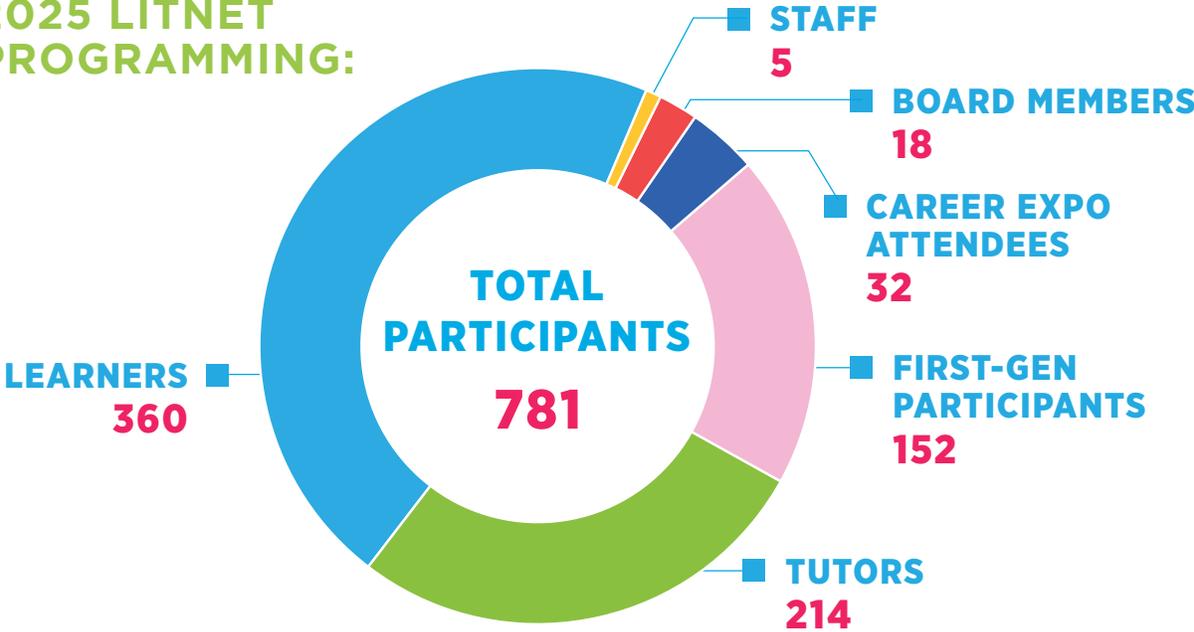
LitNet Board Member, Tutor, and Director of The Matthew and Hannah Keator Family Scholarship for New Americans



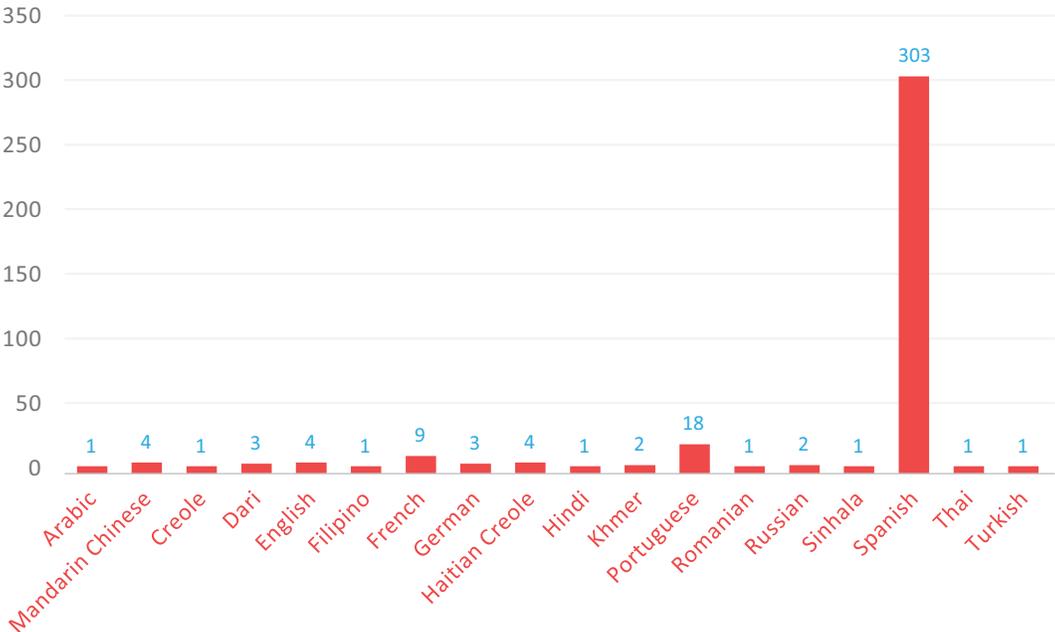
CONNECTING ACROSS OUR COMMUNITY

Close to 800 people participated in LitNet’s programming in 2025, whether benefitting from our services or helping to deliver them—or both! The LitNet circle continues to grow, engaging more constituents across the Berkshires. Together, we’re working to make our community stronger, more literate, and connected.

2025 LITNET PROGRAMMING:



LANGUAGES OUR LEARNERS SPOKE:



SANDRA AND LAURA: MOTHERS, LEARNERS, LEADERS AND THE HEART OF LITNET'S NEXT STEPS PROGRAM

You could say that being a mother is at the core of Sandra Rodriguez Aponte's motivation to support first-generation college students.

Sandra's daughter, an eighth grader, wishes to study medicine in college, and Sandra is becoming aware of the activities her daughter might want to engage in during high school that will support her on her path. Whereas an American-born family might easily understand the role that extra-curricular activities play in making a college application more competitive, such information isn't so obvious to immigrant families. They often learn such information too late, which is why Sandra believes immigrant parents should start learning about the path to college long before a student reaches high school. She's learned about the information gap in her role as co-leader of CAPEI—the support network for immigrant parents of students in the Berkshire Hills Regional School district.

“There's just so much that parents don't know,” she says, which motivated her to join LitNet in 2023 to help support first-gen students and Spanish-speaking parents in navigating the college application process. Over the past two years, Sandra has become an expert, especially when it comes to demystifying financial aid forms like the FAFSA and the state equivalent, MASFA.



LitNet's First-Generation College Coordinator, Deisy Escobar with Laura Cabrera (center) and Sandra Rodriguez Aponte. Laura and Sandra will continue to serve first-generation high school students through LitNet's Next Steps program in 2026.

Curious and wanting to be prepared when it came time to enroll her daughter, Sandra decided to enroll in and attend college herself just so that she could better understand the process.

To be clear, Sandra is an accomplished professional: she came to the U.S. from Colombia in 2020 and worked with a LitNet tutor for several years on pronunciation and grammar. Her English became good enough so that she could resume work as a Certified Public Accountant (her career in Colombia), and she is also a financial audit specialist. Yet, Sandra was flummoxed by the enrollment process at Berkshire Community College(BCC). She thought she would be able to attend BCC for free, as has been



Sandra and Laura continued

widely advertised, but she quickly ran up against bureaucratic red tape that prevented her from doing so, and understanding the reasons behind the restrictions—not to mention understanding them in a language that isn't her first—drove her to tears one day as a kind financial advisor at the college made a series of phone calls to help her. Eventually she was told that she would need to pay for the tuition herself.

Sandra doesn't want others to experience the same frustration that she did.

Sandra delved into understanding the financial aid application process, both the FAFSA and the state equivalent, MASFA,

“There's just so much that parents don't know.”

and created a presentation in English and Spanish that she now delivers to parents of first-gen and immigrant students through LitNet's Next Steps program. Her knowledge keeps growing, and she has helped dozens of families navigate the confusing applications each year as the leader of LitNet's bilingual Financial Aid Application workshops.

Laura Cabrera, originally from Mexico, has been a LitNet learner on and off for about ten years. She fondly remembers her first reading and writing tutor, Barbara, who was extraordinarily kind, sometimes baking cupcakes for Laura's young children. “She was simply the best,” Laura says.

These days, Laura is the one who provides support to others. As a Multilingual Family Liaison at Pittsfield Public Schools, Laura

LITNET'S NEXT STEP PROGRAM

In 2026, LitNet's work with first-generation college students will fall under the umbrella of our newly coined Next Steps Program. LitNet sees a role for itself in helping our learners—and their family members—figure out what's next. We are asking our learners:

“You have received a high school diploma or become a U.S. citizen. Where do you want to go with that?”

“You've done the tremendous work of getting your child through school. Do you need help in making a post-high school plan?”

“You now have a strong foundation in English. So, what's next?”

Whether that means helping learners understand what career paths they can now access or assisting them with navigating the college application process, LitNet has the means and network to assist learners.

We will continue to shape and sharpen our first-generation college support programs with the guidance of Sandra and Laura. We will host another Career Expo at the end of the year and will offer a special supplemental class to our learners in Business English. And we will hold drop-in clinics throughout the year to support our learners—and the community at large—in areas such as job applications, writing support, and resume building.

spends her week traveling between the district's various schools, offering resources, support, and information to immigrant students and parents. On any given day, Laura might help with school registration, medical referrals, support in transferring schools, or explaining how teachers communicate grades and attendance policies, which are different here than in Latin America. The most important aspect of her role in the schools is that the students recognize her as their go-to person.



Laura and Sandra brainstorming 2026 programming in the LitNet office

When LitNet was looking for another member of its First-Gen Liaison Committee in early 2025, inviting Laura to participate seemed like the natural choice. Through Laura, LitNet has an easier time reaching first-generation students and letting them know the ways LitNet is here to support them as they begin to think about post-high school plans.

Laura joined LitNet during a time when her own son, a recent high school graduate, expressed his desire to be a carpenter. This decision was hard for Laura at first,

because she had believed that the only way to succeed in the U.S. was to get a college degree. But the more she learned, the more she came to respect his decision. She sees great value in learning a trade and supports her son's ambitions to attain his contractor's license. And, like Sandra, she's also mother to a middle-schooler and is looking ahead to the ways she can support her daughter, whatever path she decides to choose.

“Immigrant parents should start learning about the path to college long before a student reaches high school.”

As learners, mothers, and mentors, Laura and Sandra are leading the way when it comes to supporting parents and the next generation in accessing and understanding the path to college and creating a post-secondary plan.

“Greylock has enjoyed a deeply meaningful partnership with LitNet centered around our shared values that foster a welcoming community for all here in the Berkshires. We’re especially proud to know that LitNet has continuously served as a trusted source for our community members. This kind of impact that creates long-lasting change, and that’s why LitNet matters.”

— JamieEllen Moncecchi,
Senior Vice President and Chief
Administrative Officer at
Greylock Federal Credit Union

GENERATION TO GENERATION: HONORING THE PAST, INSPIRING THE FUTURE

On October 18, LitNet held its annual fundraising celebration, Generation to Generation: Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future, at Drifters Bar and Restaurant at Bousquet Mountain. Over 150 attended to support LitNet, enjoying live Mariachi music, traditional South American cuisine from La Fogata, a Pittsfield eatery, and closing the night with dancing to our DJ's music picks.

The evening's honorees were members of two generations of the Masiero family, owners of Guido's Fresh Marketplace. In speeches tracing the Guido's history from its humble origins as a traveling produce truck to its current bustling operation with two locations and approximately 300 employees, Matt Masiero and his niece, Anna Masiero, cited the significance of Berkshire County's immigrant community in keeping their business running. Two of LitNet's English language learners, Sandra Zarate and Jorge Millan, also Guido's employees, cited the significance of employers like the Masieros and organizations like LitNet in helping them feel welcome, stable, and engaged in the community.



CELEBRATING THE NEXT GENERATION

Learning is a lifelong journey. You don't just get an education and stop at that. What one person learns impacts the way they nurture their children and pass on knowledge to the next generation. And, like the age-old adage "The more you learn, the less you know," learning usually begets more learning.

About ninety percent of LitNet learners come to us to learn or improve their English. Once their English gets to a certain level, they are often ready to take on new goals, such as Sandra and Laura, whose journeys from learners to educators we discuss earlier in this report. Learners who stay with LitNet for years often eventually "graduate" to new programs like high school equivalency or citizenship preparation. And increasingly, we are helping the children of our learners find their way to college through our First-Gen program.

2025 was about celebrating the ways LitNet's work lives on, is passed on, how it evolves and grows yet never loses sight of its original goal. As the demographics of who we serve have changed over the years, and as our programming changes to meet the needs of the community, we do it all with our mission in mind: to transform lives of (mostly) adult learners through the power of literacy, education, and advocacy.

Whether you've been supporting LitNet for 30 years (as some of you have!) or if you were a first-time donor in 2025, we thank you for being a part of this generation of LitNet.



WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED IN 2025

LitNet served **360** learners in our 1:1 tutoring programs. Our First-Generation College Support Program reached **152** first-gen students and family members, and **32** people participated in our Career Expo for the Immigrant Community.

Of our **360** learners enrolled for tutoring, **341** were enrolled for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), **8** for Basic Education, **8** for U.S. Citizenship, **1** for First-Generation College Support, **2** for Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) support. They spoke **18** different languages, came from **35** different countries, and ranged in age from **16** to **81**.

QUARTERLY TUTOR REPORTS REVEALED THE FOLLOWING

Education:

- **193** learners were reported as making solid improvements in English speaking, comprehension, reading, writing, civics, math, basic education, or some combination of those.
- **15** enrolled in other educational programs or attended other classes. The majority enrolled in English classes at Berkshire Community College, but other courses included an MBA program and an online support group for people working towards medical licensing.

Employment:

- **52** got new jobs, received a raise, advanced in their employment, or grew their business.

Life Achievements:

- **15** received a Massachusetts driver's license
- **7** became more involved in the community, including volunteering, joining a church band, attending plays, participating in dance classes, and serving as a panelist at a Career Expo event
- **5** moved to new living situations
- **4** attained professional certifications or licenses, including a Certified Nursing Assistant, Cosmetologist, Home Health Aide, and a Manicurist.
- **3** bought new houses
- **1** became a new US citizen

"Through the Literacy Network tutoring program, I can have a meaningful, positive impact on a fellow community member's life by helping them to learn English."

— Ted, LitNet Tutor

"Thanks to my tutor, I have discovered authors such as Langston Hughes, Emily Dickinson, and many others. I have had the opportunity to reflect on their work, explore the meaning of life, and discuss the social and political moments we are living through today."

— Laura, LitNet Learner

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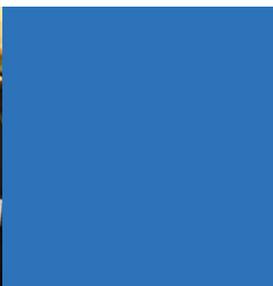
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Jean & Peter Whitehead
Susan Williams
Carol & Robert Williams
Teresa & Raymond Wise
Katherine Wolf
Julius Wool
Diane Wortis & Joseph Bozza
Karen & Kelly Wright
Dr. Natalya Yantovsky DMD
Mary & Steve Yarmosky
Christine & Raymond Zelehoski
Barbara Zheutlin &
Jonathan Hankin
Janet Zimmerman
Angela Zorzi

BUSINESSES

51 Park Restaurant & Tavern
Acrisure New England -
Toole Insurance
Adams Community Bank
Allied Business Solutions
Berkshire Food Co-op
Berkshire Mountain Distillers



Big Y
 Blue Q
 Cain Hibbard & Myers PC
 Clark's Nursery
 Classical Tents
 Cobalt LLC
 Considine Leary & Arnold LLP
 Crosstown Property
 Dare Bottleshop and Provisions
 Domaney's Liquors
 and Fine Wines
 Fitch Group, Inc
 Greylock Federal Credit Union
 Guido's Fresh Marketplace
 Henry's Electric, Inc.
 Herrington's, Inc.
 Interprint, Inc.
 Lee Bank
 MountainOne
 October Mountain
 Financial Advisors
 Petricca Industries
 Prairie Whale
 Suburban Internal Medicine
 Tableaux Wealth
 The Red Lion Inn
 Tom's Toys
 Tune Street
 Ward's Nursery
 and Garden Center
 Wheeler & Taylor Realty, Inc.
 Windy Hill Farm, Inc.
 Yoga Lee Studio
 and Healing Space

FOUNDATIONS

Berkshire Bank Foundation
 Berkshire Taconic
 Community Foundation
 Don & Maggie
 Buchwald Foundation
 Chauncey Loomis Fund of BTCF
 Josephine and
 Louise Crane Foundation

The Donald C. McGraw
 Foundation/Blackrock
 Foundation
 The Feigenbaum Foundation Inc.
 Gilson Family Foundation Inc.
 Homestead Foundation
 The Geoffrey C. Hughes
 Foundation LLP
 The Ruth Krauss Foundation Inc.
 Lee Bank Foundation
 Mass Cultural Council
 Julia and Gilbert Merrill
 Foundation Inc.
 Mill Town Foundation
 ProLiteracy Worldwide
 Rowntree Family Fund
 Dr. Robert C and
 Tina Sohn Foundation
 The Velmans Foundation Inc.
 Winter-Lehman
 Family Foundation
 Wish You Well Foundation

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Berkshire Health Systems
 Berkshire Immigrant Center
 Berkshire United Way, Inc.
 City of Pittsfield - Human
 Services Advisory Council
 Hillcrest Educational Centers
 Mount Washington
 Church of Christ
 The Great Barrington Rotary Club
 Thursday Morning Club
 Town of Egremont
 Volunteers In Medicine Berkshires

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Antimony Brewing
 Berkshire Mountain Distillers
 Classical Tents
 Dare Bottleshop
 and Provisions

Domaney's Liquors
 and Fine Wines
 Lauren Letellier & Chris Atkins
 LN Design
 The Red Lion Inn
 Your Color Connection

MATCHING GIFTS

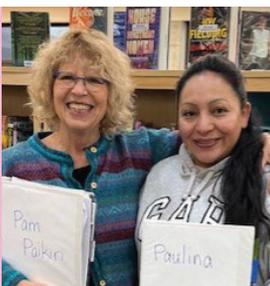
General Dynamics Workplace
 Giving through Frontstream
 Skyward Specialty
 Insurance Foundation

GIFTS IN HONOR OF

Lucy Bardo Harms
 Sarah Boyd
 Pamela Breslin
 Lisa Cavender
 Val Coleman
 Leigh Doherty
 Wendy & Eric Federer
 Eric Federer
 Cathy Folkers
 Robert Diggs & Mary Howard
 Merle Duskin Kailas
 Merle Duskin Kailas &
 Leo Kailas
 Matthew & Hannah Keator
 Leslie Kozupsky
 The Masiero Family
 Matt Masiero
 Anna, Luke & Nick Masiero
 Philip McCaffrey
 Linda Russell
 Haley Schopp

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

Ed & Marie Flinn
 Barbara Lafer
 Michael J Pegorari
 Andy Pincus
 Lillian Schwartz
 Edith Velmans
 Susan Weintraub
 Louis S Zimmerman



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 TUTORS!

Susanna Abarbanel
Amy Abramovich
Brooke Adams
Robert Alary
Gary Bahler
Yvette Bastow
Wendy Benjamin
Jan Berrick
Sam Bittman
Debby Bobson
Pat Boland
Neil Bomberg
Molly Boxer
Luke Breslin
Pamela Breslin
Jennifer Brizzi
Maria Bruhn
Beverly Brunette
Sarah Bullitt
Michael Bullock
Justin Burke
Erik Butler
Bonnie Campbell
Felix Carroll
Lisa Chapman
Peter Cherneff
Gordon Clark
Julie Clayton
Molly Cliff
Robert Cloutier
Elaine Cohen
Marsha Cohen
Stephanie Cohen

Val Coleman
Elizabeth Colhoun
Charles Collins
David Crane
Judith Cromwell
Steve Cunningham
Dianne Cutillo
Ada Beth Cutler
Amy Dattner-Levy
Jennifer Davis
Allan Dean
Kathie Dean
Andrew DeGiacomo
Janet Demers
John Deming
Antoinette DeNardis
Linda Devanny-Jamross
Glenn Devoti
Grace Diggs
Hudson DiRe
Charles Dockery
Leigh Doherty
Larry Drath
Mirabai Dyson
Judith Eddy
David Edell
Carol Edelman
Sara Ehle
Gretchen Eliason
Peter Elliston
Abby Escobar
David Evans
Cathy Folkers

Rebecca Fontaine
Janice Friedman
Jane Fucillo
Gail Garrett
Alice Giarrusso
Kate Gigliotti
Elsie Gilligan
Amanda Giracca
David Goldenberg
Marti Goldstein
Susan Gordon
David Gorson
Marty Gottron
Jennifer Greenberg
Theodore Gross
Adrienne Gruskin
Sabine Guerra
Sue Gurland
Kellie Hardecopf
Lucy Harms
Robbi Hartt
Nora Hayes
Leslye Heilig
Cynthia Heller
Monica Hermann
Phuong Ho
Caron Hobin
Sadie Honig Briggs
Jed Horowitz
Katherine Humpstone
Marc Hurel
Dorthe Hviid
Marilou Hyson



Leslie Ioffredo
Renee Johns
Pam Johnson
Hilda Jongkind
Mehernosh Kahn
Sharon Kartiganer
Rita Kasky
Gloria Katz
Sam Katz
Scottie Kelly Curtis
Sara Kiesel
Pat Konecky
Roni Kramer
Laurie Kropkowski
Jessica Krupski
Paula Kurasch
Donna Leep
Michele Lelandais
Jeanne Lemlin
Jacqueline Leppla
Emily Leventhal
Jackie Ling Wong
Elena Lovieno
Wendy Mackey
Lucy Malatesta
Marcy Mann
Barry Martin
Maria Martin Arenas
Colin Mathews
Lise Mayer
Kirsty McCallion
Michael McTeigue
Anne Meyerson
Nancy Miller
Bethany Mizrahi
Jim Moran
Anne Morrill
Debra Morton

Lloyd Moss
Deanna Mummert
Daniel Munch
Glenn H Myers
Robin Nardi
Mary Navin
Suzanne Newman
Lisa Newman
Janet O'Brien
Christine Ocheltree
Ted Okun
Macaire Pace
Pam Paikin
Barbara Palumbo
Carol Parrish
Sienna Patti
Wendy Pearson
Stephen Pelletier
Peter Podol
Marc Pollack
Eric Pressman
Elaine Radiss
Erica Randlett
Julia Regan
Donald Reichman
Janice Robbins
Chandra Rodrigues
Mayra Rodriguez
Alex Rodriguez
Joan Roland
Linda Russell
Ellen Russo
Ronnie Sacco
Haley Schopp
Cathy Schwartz
Rachel Schwartz Occhiogrosso
Thomas Sebestyen
Barry Shapiro

Lois Sharzer
Leslie Shatz
Tanya Shepardson
Adalyn Shufelt
Marc Siegel
Betty Siegenthaler
Beatrice Smith
Elizabeth Smith
Vicky Smith
Immar Sosa
Brittany Spear-Baron
Erica Spizz
Barbara Sproul
Clayton Squire
Scott Steibel
David Sultan
Lenore Sundberg
Anna Taiga
Janice Toran
Jessica Treat
Joan Ury
Kathy Van Orman
Reinout van Wagtendonk
Mariana Vasquez-Crede
Mary Verdi
Tom Verdi
Elsa Vivero
Mary Vrabel
Nancy Walters
Janet Weinstein
Melanie Willins
Morgan Windram-Geddes
Sally Wittenberg
Naomi Wong
Julius Wool
Debbie Youngelman
Elisabeth Youngerman
Barbara Zheutlin



THE ANDY PINCUS HONOR SOCIETY

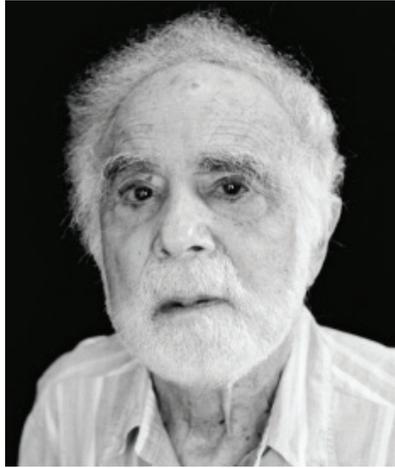


Photo by Julie McCarthy



Andy with Zoë Dalheim (LitNet's founder, left) and Maggie Curtin (his learner, right). Photo by Lily Wayne, originally for the Kimball Farms Observer.

This In 2025, Berkshire County lost one of its greats. Andy Pincus was a classical music critic, editor, and teacher—and he also happened to be LitNet's very first and longest-serving volunteer tutor. Andy worked continuously with his learner, Maggie, who is dyslexic and learned to read with the help of LitNet, for over thirty years, until Andy's passing in May.

To commemorate Andy's legacy, LitNet has created the Andy Pincus Honor Society: a list of LitNet volunteer tutors who have been tutoring **for five years or more consecutively**. We are so grateful to you all!

Amy Abramovich
Jan Abramovich
Sarah Boyd
Pamela Breslin
Beverly Brunette
Michael Bullock
Justin Burke
Marsha Cohen
Valerie Coleman
Katherine Dean
Allan Dean

Janice Friedman
Elsie Gilligan
Martin Goldstein
Lucy Harms
Leslye Heilig
Marc Hurel
Marilou Hyson
Elizabeth Mayer
Leslie Murray
Barbara Palumbo
Carol Parrish

Elaine Radiss
Linda Russell
Leslie Shatz
Marc Siegel
Lenore Sundberg
Janice Toran
Joan Ury
Reinout Van Wagtendonk
Tom Verdi
Nancy Walters
Barbara Zheutlin



INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY! LITNET NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER TUTOR

LitNet is always seeking tutors in the areas of ESOL, U.S. citizenship test preparation, adult basic education, and/or high school equivalency test preparation. No experience is necessary, just patience and a willingness to learn. Training and ongoing support are provided. You do not need to be bilingual. Tutors typically meet with their learners for one to two hours per week. Visit the “Becoming a LitNet Tutor” page on our website. For more information, contact Miguel Silva at msilva@litnetsb.org.



PARTY

Come support our mission of investing in our community while having a great time at our annual celebration, to be held in fall 2026. Check back with LitNet in the spring for the exact date.

SHOP

Shop at the Berkshire Food Co-op in the month of April and choose to “Round Up at Checkout” to support LitNet!

MAKE YOUR GIFT GO FURTHER

Your contribution to Literacy Network may be eligible for a **matching gift** from your employer. Contact your company’s Human Resources department to learn about your matching gift program. Please send us the matching gift paperwork provided by your employer. We will certify that we received your donation and return the requested materials to your employer. This can usually be completed online.

TAX LAWS HAVE CHANGED!

Beginning in 2026, more taxpayers can benefit from charitable giving, even if they don’t itemize deductions. Depending on your income and total donations, strategies such as giving through a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) or making qualified charitable distributions from your IRA may offer additional tax advantages. We encourage you to consult your tax advisor to determine the best approach for your situation. Don’t let change hold you back. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference, and your support is needed now more than ever.

MAKE A BEQUEST

Remembering LitNet in your will aligns your legacy with the values you live by today. A simple phone call to your lawyer now ensures that future learners will still have access to free one-on-one tutoring, and tutors will have support and resources they need to continue this important work. For more information, contact Susan Harding at sharding@litnetsb.org.

DONATE

LitNet relies on the generosity of individual donors, local businesses, and foundations to advance our mission. LitNet can accept donations of cash, checks, or securities. Checks can be made payable to Literacy Network. Mail to Literacy Network, 32 Park Street, Lee, MA 01238 or visit litnetsb.org/donate to give online. For more information, contact Executive Director Leigh Doherty at ldoherty@litnetsb.org or (413) 243-0471.



**Scan to learn more
about ways to give.**

CREATIVE WAYS TO SUPPORT LITNET!

It can feel tedious, but it's necessary work: fundraising. Every nonprofit organization understands they must show the community the value of their work. LitNet is lucky to have a large network of supporters who believe in what we do. We are so grateful to those who respond to our calls for support during our annual appeals, galas, and other fundraisers. We also know we have to keep it fresh, so in 2025, we got creative with our fundraising! Got a fun, creative way to help us raise funds? We'd love to hear it!

PEER TO PEER CAMPAIGN

Thanks to our tutors spreading the word, we raised \$12,000 over the month of May! This was a truly grassroots effort—our effort was broad, with 126 gifts, ranging from \$15 to \$597.40. Our tutors already do so much for LitNet. So, we are especially delighted that many opted to take the extra step of sharing a little bit about their tutoring work and the impact it had on their learner with their friends and families. Their outreach broadened our network of support.

Top photo: Lauren Letellier performing before a full house at The Mount. **Bottom photo:** Our 2025 Citizenship Trivia winners showing off their prizes!

LAUREN LETELLIER'S HIT ONE-WOMAN SHOW



In early 2025, LitNet gave a presentation to the community at Wander in Pittsfield. Lauren, a playwright and performer who happened to be in attendance that evening, approached us with a great idea: if we could secure a venue, she would perform her hit solo show, *The Village Cidiot*, and donate all proceeds to LitNet. In early June, Lauren performed her show at The Mount, netting \$2,200 for LitNet—and many new fans for herself!



LITNET TRIVIA NIGHT

In June, LitNet hosted a Citizenship Trivia Night at Amici Restaurant in West Stockbridge. A generous donor paid for the pizza, curious and competitive community members purchased tickets to play (and eat the pizza), and Executive Director Leigh Doherty and Board Member Lorena Dus (of Berkshire Immigrant Center) stumped all but the savviest internationally-minded brainiacs with trivia questions about citizenship and migration around the world.

VAL'S BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISING!



Val (left) and her wife Joan.

In 2025, LitNet tutor and supporter, Val Coleman, celebrated her 65th birthday with her friends. Ahead of her birthday, she told her guests NO GIFTS. Instead, she proposed that if people wanted to, they could donate in her honor to LitNet, which is an organization that holds a special place in her heart.



At the party, the guests' nametags along with their names shared their familial origins, celebrating the idea that most of our families came here from outside the U.S.

LitNet accrued \$1,200 in honor of Val for her birthday! Thank you, Val!



LITNET'S BIRTHDAY PROGRAM!



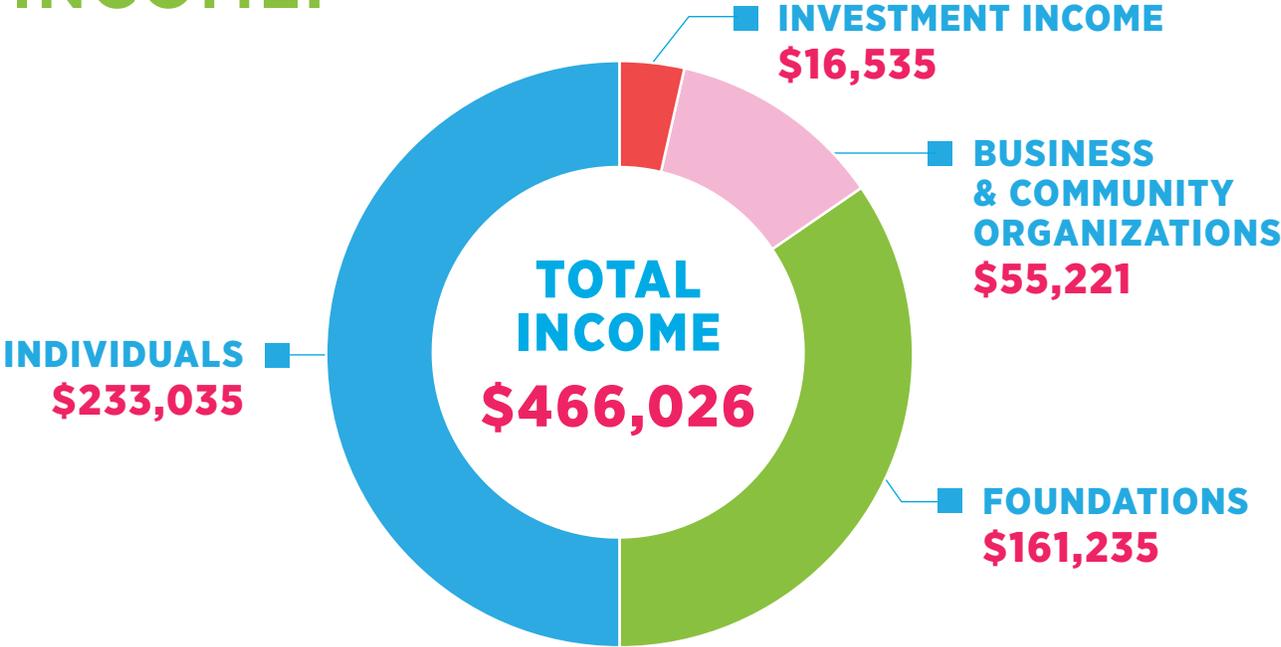
In 2026, LitNet will celebrate our 35th birthday! We want to invite you to join us in celebrating and supporting LitNet. We are kicking off a Happy Birthday Program! Visit our website to learn more about how your birthday can be an opportunity to support LitNet.

Opportunities include:

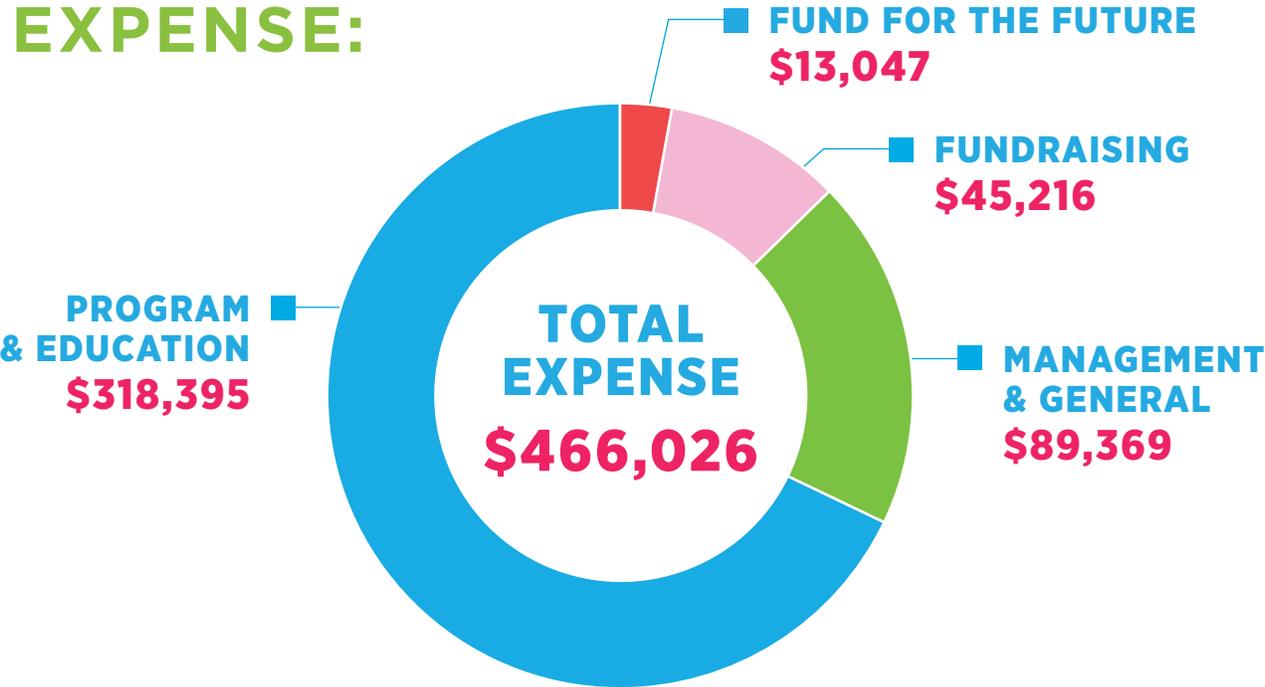
- The choice to host a birthday party complete with LitNet swag, a mini presentation and/or trivia game hosted by LitNet, and the opportunity for your guests to give to LitNet in your honor.
- Sending beautiful art cards (made by LitNet learners) to your friends and family ahead of your birthday, encouraging them to give to LitNet in your honor in lieu of gifts. (You sign up, and LitNet does the mailing!)
- Acknowledge a friend's birthday with a donation in their honor, and LitNet will send them a beautiful birthday card (made by LitNet learners) to share the news with them.
- Celebrate with us on 3/5! On March 5th, we will do a special one-day fundraiser. Donate \$35 on 3/5 to help celebrate LitNet's 35th birthday. Our goal is to get 100 people to donate, helping LitNet raise \$3,500!

FISCAL YEAR 2025*

INCOME:



EXPENSE:



*Annual financial review in process



OUR VISION

An engaged, welcoming, and literate Berkshire community

OUR MISSION

To transform the lives of adult learners, both immigrant and U.S.-born, through the power of literacy, education, and advocacy.

WHAT WE DO

LitNet provides free, individualized, one-on-one instruction in English for Speakers of Other Languages, U.S. citizenship test preparation, high school equivalency test preparation, and basic education.

Our professional staff and trained team of volunteer tutors offer generalized educational support and promote access to a network of community resources.

OUR CORE VALUES

We believe everyone has a right to an education.

We believe in the power of literacy to transform lives.

We believe challenges in life and learning should be met with patience and flexibility.

We believe a connected community is a stronger community.



LITERACY NETWORK

32 PARK STREET
LEE, MA 01238



**GENERATION
TO GENERATION**



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