

LITERACY NETWORK OF SOUTH BERKSHIRE



2022
IMPACT REPORT
INVESTING IN
OUR COMMUNITY

STAFF 2022



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** Board Members
who are also tutors*

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are so excited to present you with LitNet's 2022 Impact Report. It reflects the resources you bring to the Literacy Network of South Berkshire that continue to have an exponential effect on our Berkshire community. Featured are our learners' achievements, the opening of the Susan Weintraub Tutor Resource Center, and the beginning of partnerships with local businesses to advance the professional goals of their employees.



LitNet learners are our neighbors as well as our local workforce. Many open businesses, provide services and enrich our community in countless ways. Currently, LitNet has over 150 active tutor-learner pairs. Thanks to the Keator Family Scholarship for New Americans, we welcomed 14 new American citizens in 2022. Several more are partnered with LitNet tutors and are slated to have naturalization interviews in the coming months. Fourteen learners graduated from or began a new education program and close to 300 learners actively worked towards improving their English, reading, or other skills with us.

2022 saw the beginnings of LitNet's partnerships with local businesses whose leaders were influenced by the advice of LitNet: **invest in your staff!** LitNet provides volunteer tutors to these businesses with the goal of helping employees succeed in their roles and advance in their careers. With the current challenge of securing a workforce, these partners understand that valuing the progress of each individual employee is not only a return on investment—it is life-changing for employees.

Thank you for helping our community thrive by being a vital part of our broad-reaching network of tutors, learners, and mentors. You make all this possible!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leigh Doherty".

Leigh Doherty
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Merle Duskin Kailas".

Merle Duskin Kailas
President, Board of Directors

INVESTING IN OUR LOCAL WORKFORCE

LITNET AND BERKSHIRE MEADOWS TEAM UP TO BRING LITERACY AND FLUENCY TO THE BERKSHIRES

A letter from Cate Tower:

Berkshire Meadows is a residential program in Housatonic, MA that serves children and adults with complex medical and special education needs. We attract staff from all walks of life and nationalities. Over the years, our program has benefited from both a wide range of new immigrants as well as our local Berkshire residents. A warm heart and a willingness to understand and support individuals with a very high level of care can be complex and demanding. As an organization, we believe strongly in supporting staff in a multitude of ways.

One of the critical ways we have been providing support to our staff is in the area of English language development for our many employees whose primary language is Spanish. Over two years ago, we reached out to LitNet to explore tutoring and ESL classes that could support our staff. With the help of Leigh Doherty and Miguel Silva, we were able to connect staff with tutors and classes at the Berkshire Community College (BCC) campus. Leigh and Miguel worked tirelessly to find the right tutors and classes for our staff and even provided laptops when needed. We opened our school after hours for staff to easily meet with tutors and gave staff time to attend classes. With the support of LitNet, more than 10 of our staff are developing English language proficiency



right now. Their commitment and pride are amazing to see! Sometimes staff move on to different positions within the company or county, but they always bring with them their appreciation for the support provided by Berkshire Meadows and LitNet.

There are so many benefits the staff from Berkshire Meadows—and by extension, the children we serve—have received from our collaboration with LitNet (read a few stories below). I can't end this story and note of appreciation without a special recognition for the tutors that give their time and hearts to helping our staff grow. Thank you!

— Cate Tower, Special Education
Director at Berkshire Meadows School



SUSAN: came to Berkshire Meadows over three years ago with minimal English proficiency. After two years

of tutoring and classes, she passed her CNA certification and level 3 English proficiency exam. Susan plans to continue her education with the support of Berkshire Meadows and

LitNet to eventually become licensed as a nurse, after which she will continue to work with our clients in a different capacity.



EDWIN: came to us three years ago with minimal to moderate English proficiency. After two years attending classes at BCC, he passed his level 3 proficiency

exam and is now the lead education/residential staff in one of our classrooms.



JUAN: came to us two years ago. He attended a high school with limited ESL support and ended up dropping out. Finding work he had pride in was a challenge for

him. Working closely and diligently with his tutor he is well on his way to completing his high school equivalency diploma and looking forward to seeking training as an automobile mechanic. Perhaps he will be in charge of our transportation fleet!

“With the support of LitNet, more than 10 of our staff are developing English language proficiency right now.”

WHAT OTHER LOCAL BUSINESS LEADERS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT LITNET

“Interprint, Inc. is a world-renowned designer and printer of décor paper. We have welcomed many employees to our facility that have the extra challenge of learning English as a second language. Currently the spoken languages are Spanish, Italian, Pashto, Dari, and Ukrainian with English as the primary language. Our goal is to speak a common language and to make sure every employee is set up for success. We are glad that LitNet is available to lend a helping hand to our staff. Volunteer tutors come to Interprint and provide services onsite as needed. With the assistance of LitNet, we are confident that our employees will improve their language skills and abilities.”

— Melissa O’Brien,
Sr. HR Generalist, Interprint, Inc.

“LitNet and my tutor Neil helped me develop my English to such a level that I now own a restaurant. I deal with many problems and talk with customers in English daily without a problem. I recommended LitNet to my brother-in-law. After three months of classes, he had developed his communication so well that he was able to become a waiter. And another employee, Bruno, could not speak English. After a month of tutoring and practicing with his American coworkers, he is also ready to go! LitNet and the tutors are amazing to our community, helping many people develop themselves by breaking the language barrier.”

— Octavio Nallin, co-owner
of Amici Café and Restaurant
in West Stockbridge

THE SUSAN WEINTRAUB TUTOR RESOURCE CENTER

In October we celebrated the grand opening of the Susan Weintraub Tutor Resource Center, a new gathering and working space for LitNet tutors and learners. This new space is on the ground floor of the building which houses our LitNet office at 32 Park Street in Lee. This fabulous new center was made possible by the donations we have received in the past eight months in memory of Sue, our beloved tutor and board member for 11 years, who passed away in February, 2022.

We're thrilled to be able to perpetuate Sue's giving spirit by opening this space where tutors and learners can work together, access online resources, and utilize our three library collections: the Susan Weintraub Professional Collection, the Donald C. McGraw Foundation's Literature Collection, and the Ruth Krauss Foundation's Children's Collection. This new space is a place where learners, many of them immigrants who are new to the community, can feel welcome.



DONATIONS MADE TO THE SUSAN WEINTRAUB MEMORIAL FUND

GIFTS GIVEN THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022

Elise Abrams	Avrum Goldstein	Dyanne & John Rafal
Rae-ann Allen	Joan Goodkind	Nancy & Rick Richardson
Anonymous (5)	Helene & Alan Gordon	Mimi Rosenblatt & Mark Lefenfeld
Sue & Howard Arkans	Judie & Joel Grossman	Linda & Frank Russell
Dana Audia	Alice Halsted	Deborah & Stephen Schreier
Judy & Stan August	Danielle Holleran	Jenny Schwartz
Patricia Barrett	Stephen Iser	Judy & Dan Schwartz
Stephen Becker	Merle Duskin & Leo Kailas	Harriet & Stuart Schweitzer
Laura Blank & Mitch Schlansky	Marilyn & Elihu Katzman	Molly Sheriff
Hinda & Bill Bodinger	Joan & Larry Kleinman	Cathy Shier
Sarah & Bronly Boyd	Rena & Steven Klosk	Ruth Simon & David Feldman
Pamela & Andrew Breslin	Harvey Krauser	Arlene & Michael Sobol

“ This new space is a place where learners, many of them immigrants who are new to the community, can feel welcome. ”

Cipora Brown & Steven Feiner	Michelle & Judah Kraushaar	Lenore & Paul Sundberg
David Campbell	Seth Kurland	Robyn Tanne
Tom & Diane Campion Family	Barbara & Ira Kushnir	Michael Terlizzi
Charitable Fund	Beth Layne	Susan & Jack Tolin
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Sarah Cohen	David Lynn	Sam Unger
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Bonnie & Ellis Diamond	Elizabeth & Robert Macintosh	Bradley Wadler
Leigh Doherty	Sherry & Shelly Marks	Jeff Wadler
Susan & J. Williar Dunlaevy	Georgia Massucco	Kacey & Scott Weintraub
Wendy & Eric Federer	Barbara Meyers	Valerie Winig
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Neal Gelfand	Beth & Michael Nathan	Sandy Worley & Marc Walfish
Virginia & James Giddens	Julie Nathanson	Stephanie Yelenik
Ruth & Leon Glazerman	Jane & Richard Novick	Mara & Justin Ziegler
Nancy & Alan Goldberg	Jay Opperman	Meghan Ziegler
Carrie Golden	Roni Pearlman	
Barbara Goldenziel	Joyce & Steven Pyenson	

SIP, SALSA, & SAMBA!

On Saturday, September 17, about 150 guests attended LitNet's annual fundraising celebration at Crissey Farm in Great Barrington. A mix of supporters, tutors, and learners gathered to enjoy food by Crazy Arepas, La Chalupa y La Enchilada, and Barrington Brewery. With a Samba dance demonstration by Luana Dias David and Latin dance music played throughout the night, LitNet exceeded both its fun and fundraising goals!





THANK YOU FOR INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

THIS LIST INCLUDES SUPPORTERS WHO GAVE TO LITNET FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Donna Abbott
Amy Abramovich
Elise Abrams
Marion Adler
Rae-ann Allen
George R. Ambriz &
Tanya L. Ambriz
Anonymous (10)
Sue & Howard Arkans
Dana Audia
Judy & Stan August
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Christine Baldridge
Carliss Baldwin &
Randolph Hawthorne
Joan E. Bancroft
Patricia Barrett
Kate Barton & Sam Craig
Alice Beal &
William Francis Kuntz II
Anna & Josh Beardsley
Gail Beaudain & Jed Baumwell
Stephen Becker
Judith & Alan Benjamin
Wendy Benjamin &
Mayra Rodriguez
Lina Bermudez &
Camilo Manrique
Melissa & John Bissell
Paula & Noel Blagg
Laura Blank & Mitch Schlansky
Harriet Bloch & Evan Sakellarios
Stephanie Blumenthal
Hinda & Bill Bodinger
Jeannene Booher
Lorita & Thomas Bosworth

Molly & Louis Boxer
Sarah & Bronly Boyd
Patricia Boynton &
William Mulholland
Stephanie & Carl Bradford
Paula C. Bradley
Jane Braus
Pamela & Andrew Breslin
Marcia Brolli
Cipora Brown & Steven Feiner
Deborah Buccino & Eric Plakun
The Buckley-Wright Family
Nancy & Michael Bullock
Deborah & Richard Burke
Julie & Ethan Buyon
Michele Cabrera
Laurel & Mario Caluori
Lynn Campana & Paul Hirt
David Campbell
Eugene Carr
Deborah & Daniel Carter
Catheryn Chacón
Roselle & Alan Chartock
Claudine Chavanne
Catherine & Matthew Chester
Amy & Quentin Chin
Kathleen & Neil Chrisman
Laurence Cohen
Marsha & Steve Cohen
Phyllis Cohen
Randi & Howard Cohen
Ronnie & Lawrence Cohen
Sarah Cohen
Val Coleman & Joan Katter
Peter Conroy
Shawn Leary Considine &
Michael Considine

Terry & Douglas Cooper
Claudia Coplan
Sandra Cozzaglio
Lindsay Crampton & Richard Greene
Susan D. Crane
Susan Crofut & Ben Luxon
Patricia Curran
Maggie & Tom Curtin
Norma & Gilbert d'Oliveira
Karen Dalheim
Zoë & Stuart Dalheim
Susan & Ned Dana
Claudia Davidson
Helen Hoffman Davies &
John Haskett Davies
Emily Day
Sarah Hitchcock-De Gregori &
Alessandro De Gregori
Katherine Dean
Virginia Delugan
Bonnie & Ellis Diamond
Carol & Herb Diamond
Leigh Doherty
Vicki Donahue
Laura Dubester
Susan & J. Williar Dunlaevy
Lorena & Jason Dus
Julie & Barney Edmonds
Gail Edwin & Robert Stein
Linda & Tom Egan
Janet & John Egelhofer
Cia Elkin & Larry Gadd
Peter Elliston
Patricia & Peter Elsbach
Barbara Fabiani
Alane & Jim Fagin
Representative Tricia Farley-Bouvier
Wendy & Eric Federer

Henry Ferlauto
 Chris Ferrero &
 Martin Sennett
 Dena & John Fisher
 Steffi Fletcher
 Patricia Flinn
 Susan & Henry Flint
 Allison & Ryan Forsman
 Tracy & Andy Foster
 Susan Foulds
 Matthew Freitag
 Christopher Freyer
 Jill Friedlander &
 Michael Goroff
 Benno Friedman
 Patricia & Robert Gage
 Neal Gelfand
 Richard Gibbons &
 Robert Ollis
 Virginia & James Giddens
 Cornelia & George Gilder
 Amanda Giracca &
 Ben Shalles
 Allison & Vincent Giracca
 Ruth & Leon Glazerman
 Irma & Paul Godlin
 Nancy & Alan Goldberg
 Robin & Peter Goldberg
 Carrie Golden
 Barbara Goldenziel
 Avrum Goldstein
 Joan Goodkind
 Mary Ann Goodman &
 Bruno Quinson
 Helene & Alan Gordon

Judie & Joel Grossman
 Thomas Gunning
 Roberta & Steven Haas
 Dave Hall
 Bobbie Hallig
 Tamar Halpern & Paul Zuydhoek
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 Julie & Steven Hannum
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 Benjamin Harms
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 Marc Warren
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 Solomon Israel
 Marion Jansen
 Wendy Jennis & Doug Miskin
 Sandi Kafenbaum
 Merle Duskin & Leo G. Kailas
 Helga Kaiser
 Lori & Chris Kapiloff
 Isabelle Kaplan
 Sherry & Daniel Kasper
 Marilyn & Elihu Katzman
 Matthew & Hannah Keator
 Francine & John Kelleher
 Jackie & Ron Kelly
 Joan & John Kelly
 Pat Kennelly & Ed Keon
 Julie & Frank Kern
 Athena & Richard Kimball
 Susanne King & Richard Berlin
 Joan Kinne
 Sara Kleiner-Goudey & Douglas Goudey
 Joan & Larry Kleinman
 Rena & Steven Klosk
 Valerie & Fred Knecht
 Leslie & Roy Kozupsky
 Harvey Krauser
 Michelle & Judah Kraushaar
 Julia Kreilkamp
 Seth Kurland
 Barbara & Ira Kushnir

JAN/FEB

2022 MILESTONES



- LitNet held its first post-pandemic, in-person **Beginner ESOL Tutor Training Workshop**
- Welcomed six new board members
- Launched monthly e-newsletter, featuring “**Faces of LitNet**” column

Ann Larkin
 Beth Layne
 Hilda & Martin Levine
 Dr. Ben Liptzin & Liz Schneider
 Katherine Lockridge
 Caitlin & Dusty Lopez
 Lisa Loring
 Leda & Bob Lubin
 David Lynn
 Shirley Lynn
 Dr. Jack Lyons
 Yo-Yo Ma & Jill Hornor
 Lisa & Bob Macintosh
 Catherine & Matt Mandel
 Ellen Manley
 Barbara & Roger Manring
 Alissa Margulies
 Sherry & Shelly Marks
 Ivy & Daniel Marwil
 Dawn & Christopher Masiero
 Georgia Massucco
 Lise & Allen Mayer
 Julie & David McCarthy
 Robert C. & Elizabeth McGraw
 Betsey McKearan
 Margaret McTeigue & Tom Wessel
 Michael McTeigue
 Walter McTeigue &
 Caroline Wheeler
 Barbara Meyers
 Ellen & Frank Michelman
 Enid Michelman
 Margaret A. Miller
 Nancy & Michael Miller
 Nancy & Tim Minkler

Craig & Laurie Norton Moffatt
 Frances Montgomery
 Diane Moran
 Donna Morelli
 Nancy & Glenn Muller
 Dorothy & Douglas Munson
 Elizabeth & James Murray
 Leslie & Rob Murray
 Marti Murray
 Nina Summers Myers &
 Alan C Myers
 Judith & Alex Nardacci
 Beth & Michael Nathan
 Julie Nathanson
 Sandra Newman
 Dana & Lukasz Niedzielski
 Jane & Richard Novick
 Anna Oliver & Stephan Klein
 Jay Opperman
 Urszula Orczykowska Bernal &
 Andres Bernal
 Annette Orenstein &
 Steven Polivy
 Brandon Pantorno
 Marie Paradise
 Marcia & Dan Parnell
 Carol Parrish & Paul Clark
 Andrea & Dan Patel
 Roni Pearlman
 Susan & Arthur Peisner
 Bepsie Perry
 William & Marina Perry
 Andrew Pincus
 Sarah Pitcher-Hoffman &
 Seth Hoffman

Michael Pollock
 Sharri Posen
 Asta Potter
 Marcia Powdermaker &
 Andrew Potler
 Lucy Prashker
 Joyce & Steven Pyenson
 Elaine Radiss & Richard Petrino
 Dyanne & John Rafal
 Cris Raymond
 Allison Read
 John Reynolds & Susan Vernier
 Nancy & Rick Richardson
 A. Gillian Rose
 Mimi Rosenblatt &
 Mark Lefenfeld
 Alice & Donald Roth
 Susan Rothschild &
 Don Freedman
 James Ruberto
 Linda Ruberto
 Ellen Rudley & Neil Fox
 John Ruffing
 Kim & Tom Ruffing
 Brittany & James Russell
 Linda & Frank Russell
 Deborah & William Ryan
 Jane Ryan
 Janis Martinson Sagarin &
 Stephen Sagarin
 Pat Salomon & Julio Rodriguez
 Nancy Salz & Richard Mickey
 Diane Saunders & Bob Rosen
 Ned Saviski
 Sharon & Ric Schafler

MAR/APR/MAY



- LitNet Board Retreat
- LitNet published its very first Impact Report
- LitNet held in-person **Intermediate ESOL Tutor Training Workshop**

JUN/JUL



- Launched **Community Conversations** speaker series in conjunction with Stockbridge Library
- Leigh and Miguel represented LitNet at BIC One World Celebration
- **New Americans** celebration at Norman Rockwell

Sari Scheer & Samuel Kopel
 Mike Schiffer
 Deborah & Stephen Schreier
 Jenny Schwartz
 Judy & Dan Schwartz
 Denise & Bob Schwed
 Harriet & Stuart Schweitzer
 Carol & Richard Seltzer
 Marcie Setlow & David Scribner
 Estate of Elizabeth Ann Shalit
 Julie Shapiro & Allan Dean
 Leslie & Stephen Shatz
 Michael & Anne Sheridan
 Molly Sheriff
 Arthur Sherman
 Cathy Shier
 Carl & Claudia Shuster
 Ruth Simon & David Feldman
 Marcia Slaminsky
 Debbie & Ashley Smith
 Kathleen & Philip Smith
 Starbuck & Anna Smith
 Barbara Snyder
 Fran Snyder & David Voremberg
 Arlene & Michael Sobol
 Pen Soy & James Brooke
 Donna Spector
 Robert Strasslerel
 Lenore & Paul Sundberg
 Robyn Tanne
 Ingrid & Richard Taylor
 Michael Terlizzi
 Sheila & Randy Thunfors
 Lutitia Tibbetts
 Susan & Jack Tolin

Arlene & Franklin Tolopko
 John Toole
 Janice Toran & Bob Bogomolny
 Robin Tost
 Margot & Kip Towl
 Magda Tsipis
 Donald Ullman
 Kathrin Unger
 Sam Unger
 Joan & Michael Ury
 Linda & Dan Volpano
 Suzannah & Pieter Van Schaick
 Hester Velmans & Peter Cherneff
 Sally Vincent
 Cate Vojdik & Ivan Oransky
 Barbara Wacholder & Robert Gross
 Elizabeth & James Wade
 Bradley Wadler
 Jeff Wadler
 Jay Weintraub
 Kacey & Scott Weintraub
 Robert Wespiser
 Jane Wheeler
 Laird & Reid White
 Jean & Peter Whitehead
 Carol & Rob Williams
 Kathryn & Sean Wilson
 Valerie Winig
 Terry & Jay Wise
 Shelley & Dan Wojtkowski
 Fran & Joel Wolk
 Sandy Worley & Marc Walfish
 Mary & Steve Yarmosky
 Stephanie Yelenik
 Elizabeth Young

Paula & Stuart Yurman
 Adrienne Zanini
 Christine & Raymond Zelehoski
 Barbara Zheutlin &
 Jonathan Hankin
 Mara & Justin Ziegler
 Meghan Ziegler
 Richard Ziter & Eric Reimer
 Angela Zorzi

BUSINESSES

Abbott's Limousine
 Berkshire Co-op Market
 Round up for Change
 Berkshire Health Systems
 Blue Q
 cafeADAM
 Cain Hibbard & Myers PC
 Casablanca South
 Clark's Nursery
 CompuWorks
 Crissey Farm
 Dare Bottleshop & Provisions
 Greylock Federal Credit Union
 Guido's Fresh Marketplace
 Ed Herrington, Inc.
 Merit Pages
 Onyx Specialty Papers, Inc.
 Piretti Real Estate
 Salisbury Bank
 Suburban Internal Medicine, Inc.
 The Purple Plume
 The Red Lion Inn
 Toole Insurance Co.
 Tune Street

AUG



- 70+ tutors attended a **Tutor Appreciation Gathering** in honor of our volunteers
- Leigh and Miguel represented LitNet at the Berkshire Small Business Resource Expo and Family Resource Centers Resource Fair
- Leigh on The John Krol Podcast

SEPT



- Leigh featured on WSBS
- Leigh and Miguel represented LitNet at the Latino Festival
- LitNet's **Sip, Salsa, and Samba** Annual Celebration
- LitNet's 30th Anniversary Photo Exhibition ended after a year of traveling the county

Ward's Nursery & Garden Center
Wheeler & Taylor, Inc.
Zabian's Jewelers

FOUNDATIONS

Berkshire Bank Foundation
Blackbaud Employee Giving Fund
Black Rock Foundation
Don and Maggie
 Buchwald Foundation
Tom and Diane Campion
 Family Charitable Fund
Chauncey Loomis Fund -
 Berkshire Taconic
 Community Foundation
Colgate-Palmolive Employee
 Giving Program
Josephine & Louise
 Crane Foundation
The Feigenbaum Foundation, Inc.
Fiordellisi Williams
 Family Foundation
Frontstream Foundation
General Dynamics Employee
 Giving Program
Helen Schmidt Hardman
 Charitable Fund
The Geoffrey C. Hughes
 Foundation LLP
Jewish Women's Foundation
 of the Berkshires
Matthew and Hannah Keator
 Family Foundation
The Ruth Krauss Foundation, Inc.
Lee Bank Foundation

The Donald C. McGraw
 Foundation
Julia and Gilbert Merrill
 Foundation Inc.
Network For Good
New World Endowment Fund
 - Berkshire Taconic
 Community Foundation
Frederick M. Peyser Jr.
 Foundation
ProLiteracy Worldwide
Robbins - de Beaumont
 Foundation
Rowntree Family Fund
Skyward Specialty
 Insurance Foundation
The Carl and Toby Sloane
 Family Foundation
The Velmans Foundation Inc.
Winter-Lehman Family
 Foundation

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The Alford Afghan Group
Big Y Community Bag Program
City of Pittsfield
The Great Barrington Rotary Club
Mount Washington
 Church of Christ
Stockbridge Golf Club
 Ladies Golf
Thursday Morning Club
Town of Egremont
Town of Lee Cultural Council

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Classical Tents
Domaney's Fine Wine & Liquors
LN Design
Ward's Nursery & Garden Center

GIFTS MADE IN HONOR OF

David & Stephanie Adler
Bob Bogolmony
Pam Breslin &
 her learner Paloma
Justin Burke
Mary & Ben Daire
Zoë Dalheim
Gail Edwin & Robert Stein
Eric & Wendy Federer
Eric Federer
Merle Duskin Kailas
Leslie Kozupsky
Walter McTeigue
Lesley Oransky
Janice Toran

GIFTS MADE IN MEMORY OF

Marianne de Gersdorff
John Foulds
Jim Lamme
Bob Nason
Chloe Nassau
Nancy Nirenberg
Susan St. John
Susan Weintraub
Norman Zheutlin
Louis Seymour Zimmerman

OCT/NOV



- Grand opening of **Susan Weintraub Tutor Resource Center**
- 2nd Community Conversations held at Stockbridge Library
- Swearing in ceremony at Naumkeag welcomed two Keator Scholars as new Americans

DEC



- LitNet **won first place** in Rural Intelligence Reader's Choice Awards in two Education & Learning categories.
- LitNet held second **Beginner ESOL Tutor Training Workshop**



THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 TUTORS!

Amy Abramovich
Madeleine Albano
Katharine Allentuck
Sue Arkans
Megan Arvin
Lina Bermudez
Jan Berrick
Ashley Blodgett
Debby Bobson
Gloria Boms
Pincus Boms
Molly Boxer
Sarah Boyd
Tracey Brennan
Pamela Breslin
Maria Brun
Beverly Brunette
Maggie Buchwald
Sarah Bullitt
Michael Bullock
Dara Burke
Justin Burke
Sara Jeanne Burke
Melissa Bye
Catherine Calame
Mario Caluori
Jessica Cambi
Bob Carlson
Maryann Carnes
Caroline Cazares
Peter Cherneff
Val Coleman
Veronica Colley Cunningham
Terry Cooper
Allan Dean
Kathie Dean
Denise Devereaux
Lucy Dilworth
Charles Dockery
Natacha Dockery Livak
Carol Edelman
Linda Egan
Deisy Escobar
Eric Federer
Dena Fisher
Michael Flamini
Cathy Folkers
Neil Fox
Sarah Frank
Janice Friedman
Janine Fusco
Mark Gilbert
Sharon Gilbert
Holly Gill
Elsie Gilligan
Amanda Giracca
David Goldenberg

Martin Goldstein
Beth Gott
Marty Gottron
Mary Anne Grammer
Andrea Green
Melissa Greenlaw
Deborah Groshen
Jessica Harding
Lucy Harms
Robbi Hartt
Suzanne Hatch
Leslye Heilig
Tricia Hickey
Bess Hochstein
Steve Hodgkin
Seth Hoffman
Judith Hoffman
Natalie Holland
Jed Horowitz
Marc Hurel
Joan Hymanson
Marilou Hyson
Leslie Iofreddo
Colta Ives
Leslie Jameson
Charles Joslyn
Jennifer Joyce
Jane Judge
Sandi Kafenbaum
Joan Katter
Gloria Katz
Robi Kellerman
Frank Kern
Julie Kern
Sara Kiesel
Laurie Kropkowski
Helen Kuziemko
Catherine Laird
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Jim Lawrence
Donna Leep
Jeanne Lemlin
Anne Lesser
Juliana Lopez
MacKenize Loring
Michaela Loring
Nicole Mancivalano
Laura Mars
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Lise Mayer
Adrienne Miesmer
Nancy Miller
Maggie Mitchell
Diandra Mongeon
Donna Morelli
Elizabeth Morse

Leslie Murray
Caitlin Nash
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Nicole Ouellette
Barbara Palumbo
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Katie Pasco Frisnia
Susan Pettee
Andrew Pincus
Diane Piraino
Sarah Pitcher Hoffman
Jessica Provenz
Elaine Radiss
Janice Robbins
Mayra Rodriguez
Fernando Rojas
Sandra Rosenblum
Marc Rosenthal
Alice Roth
Linda Russell
Nancy Salz
Diane Saunders
Ned Saviski
Gary Scheft
Paul Schieber
Sandra Schilling
Barry Shapiro
Leslie Shatz
Adalyn Shufelt
Marc Siegel
Betty Siegenthaler
Barbara Snyder
Tina Sotis
Stacey Spector
Maureen Spollen
Lenore Sundberg
Laurie Tang
Ron Terry
Janice Toran
Debby Trautmann
Jessica Treat
Chris Tucci
Joan Ury
Ed Valentine
Kathy Van Orman
Reinout van Wagtendonk
Mary Verdi
Tom Verdi
Jeff Waingrow
Nancy Walters
Hannah Weeks
Mary Jo Williams
Kathryn Wilson
Julius Wool
Elisabeth Youngerman
Mike Zerbel
Barbara Zheutlin

IMMIGRATION AND THE COMMUNITY

Berkshire County is home to more than **10,000** immigrants from **80** countries.

The foreign-born make up about **17%** of Massachusetts' population and **10.2%** of Berkshire County's population.

LITNET IN 2022

LitNet served nearly **300** learners.

Learners came from **33** countries and spoke at least **22** different languages collectively.

87% of learners came from Latin America and **80%** were Spanish speaking.

14 learners passed an entrance exam, certification test, or a similar academic evaluation or assessment.

14 Keator Scholars became American citizens.



OUR LEARNERS REPORTED THE FOLLOWING LIFE-CHANGING ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Reading a newspaper in English
- Reading a children's book in English to their children
- Having their first conversation in English
- Introducing themselves to strangers in English
- Engaging more actively at work
- Feeling empowered to say, "Please slow down" and "Can you repeat that, please?"
- Getting hired, promoted, or finding better-paying work
- Opening a business



NEW INITIATIVES IN 2023

PROJECT DROP-IN

LitNet will conduct research to better understand barriers for adult learners, such as neurodivergences, trauma, language ability, economics, and undiagnosed learning disabilities.

BRIDGING THE COLLEGE APPLICATION GAP

LitNet will work with other local organizations to guide first-generation college applicants and their parents through the application process.

LEGACY GIVING

LitNet will launch its Legacy Circle, a new option to support LitNet through planned giving. A planned gift is a voluntary gift, often a major gift, that involves integrating personal, financial, and estate planning concepts with a donor's plan for lifetime or testamentary giving. For the donor, a planned gift provides a way to give beyond the use of current assets, and it often provides significant estate tax benefits.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR OUR DEDICATED TUTORS AND VERY PROUD OF OUR HARDWORKING LEARNERS!

“I know you have the potential to do great things, and if a language barrier were to hold you back it would be a shame — it would be a shame for you, for your family, and it would be a shame for the community because it would be our loss.”

— LitNet tutor Marc
to his learner Ashly

“Learning English is not easy. In my case, I have experienced moments of frustration and sadness at not being able to express my ideas, but people like Marc have helped to make this process easier and easier.”

— LitNet learner Ashly
to her tutor Marc

“The beauty of the one-on-one tutoring system is that the individual needs of each student can be met, including their complicated schedules, their educational background and how language learning can be tailored to their jobs and family needs.”

— Tricia Farley-Bouvier,
Massachusetts State
Representative

INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY! LITNET NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

VOLUNTEER TO BE A 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 is provided. You do not need to be bilingual. Tutors typically meet with their learners one to two hours per week. For more information email Miguel Silva, msilva@litnetsb.org or scan the QR code below.



SHOP

Shop at the [Berkshire Food Co-op in Great Barrington](#) during September when it will be sponsoring LitNet in their Round Up for Change program. Shop at [Guido's in Great Barrington](#) during the months of September and October when Guido's will be sponsoring LitNet in their Round Up at Checkout program. [Buy a reusable bag at Big Y in Lee in December](#) and half of the proceeds go to LitNet!

PARTY

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

FUNDING THE FUTURE - LITNET'S LEGACY CIRCLE

Have you considered including LitNet in your will or setting up a Charitable Gift Annuity with LitNet?

We offer many ways to share your legacy with an organization you are passionate about helping. Please contact Executive Director, Leigh Doherty at ldoherty@litnetsb.org for more information.

DONATE

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



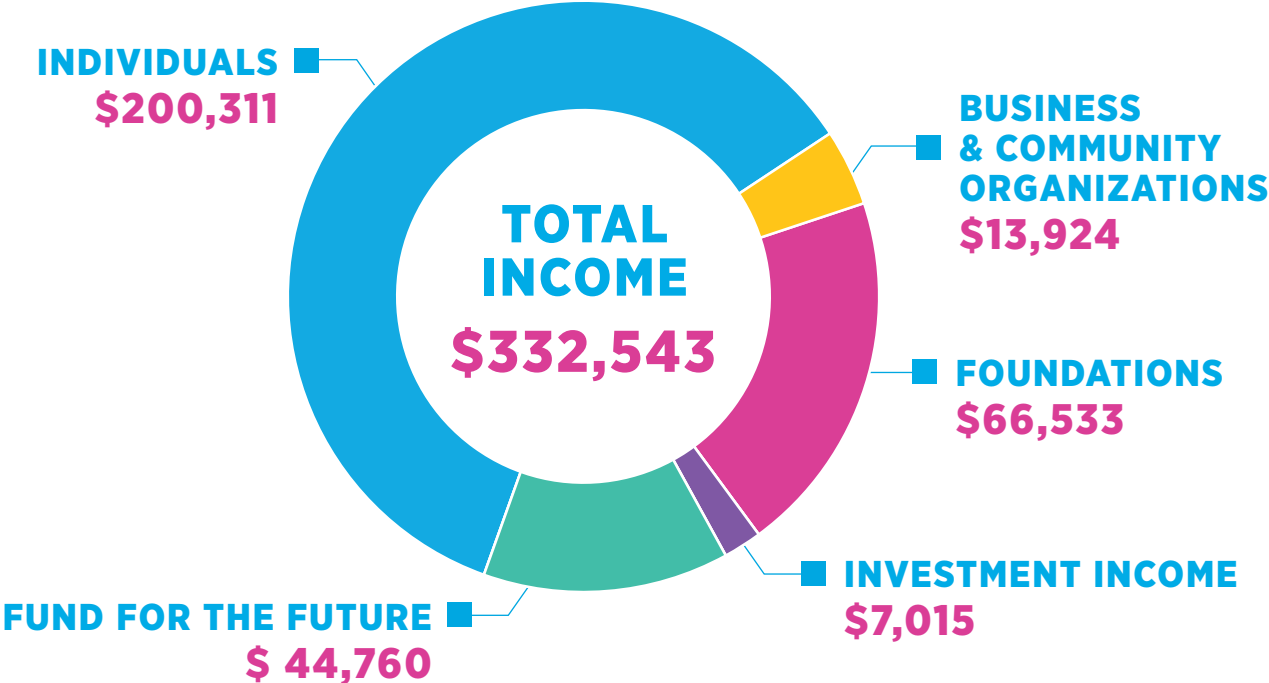
Massachusetts has a new charitable contributions deduction. It's available to all taxpayers, whether or not you itemize deductions on your federal return. Just keep track of your contributions and report them on the state tax return you file in the first part of 2024. They'll be deducted from your taxable income. This deduction is universal and permanent, so you can utilize it every year going forward.

MAKE YOUR GIFT GO FURTHER

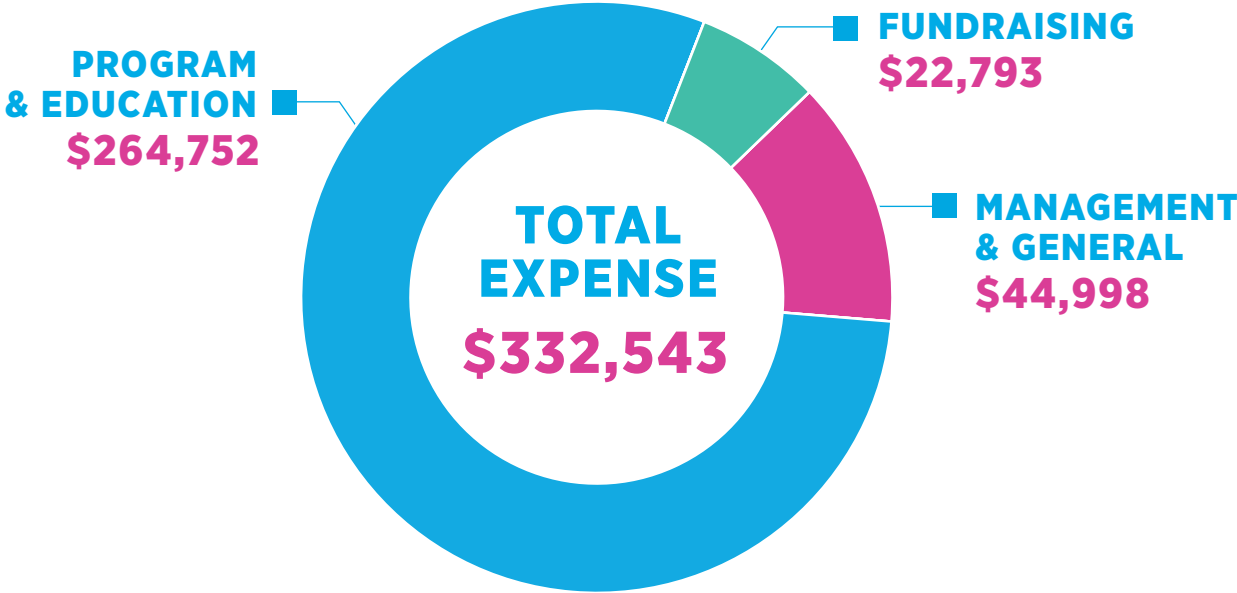
Your contribution to Literacy Network of South Berkshire may be eligible for a matching gift from your employer. Contact your company's Human Resources department to learn about their matching gift program. Please send us the matching gift paperwork provided by your employer. We will certify that we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

FISCAL YEAR 2022

INCOME:



EXPENSE:





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 reading, high-school equivalency test preparation, English for Speakers of Other Languages, and citizenship test preparation. 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
OF SOUTH BERKSHIRE**

32 PARK STREET
LEE, MA 01238



**INVESTING
IN OUR
COMMUNITY**

