

Winnebago County Literacy Council



The Winnebago County Literacy Council (WCLC), is a nonprofit agency located in Oshkosh, WI with a mission to help adults and their families increase their literacy skills so they can make informed decisions in order to function effectively in society.

Adult literacy is the single greatest factor affecting our economy. The price of an illiterate community is expensive, not only for the illiterate person, but for their family, and our society. Those who cannot read and write are severely impeded from participation in a complex society, without access to the information necessary to make an intelligent decision.

WCLC PROGRAMS

• Tutor Training

WCLC provides 12-hour tutor training workshops for volunteer tutors who want to tutor adult learners. WCLC also provides 4-hour child tutor training workshops for tutors who want to tutor children in our Family Literacy Program.

• One-to-One Tutoring Program

The majority of WCLC students learn to read through the One-to-One Tutoring Program. This confidential, personalized and goal-oriented approach to reading has proven successful in meeting the special needs of adult learners.

Basic Literacy: We provide one-on-one tutoring for students whose primary language is English.

ESL (English as a Second Language): We provide English literacy for those whose primary language is not English.

Family Literacy: We provide one-to-one tutoring for parents and their children in both Basic Literacy and ESL to help promote the parent as being the child's primary teacher. Classroom instruction is offered to families with young children learning English.

• Small Group Instruction

These groups consist of three to five students working with one tutor. This approach has been added to WCLC's programs in order to address the fact that there is always a waiting list for WCLC's services. Small Group students are grouped according to ability.

• Workplace Literacy Program

WCLC provides job-specific literacy programming at companies wanting to increase the skills of their employees. Projects are designed to fit the needs of the employer and employees.

Did You Know...

In Winnebago County alone, 15,000 adults, or 10% of the adult population is at Level 1 literacy, not being able to correctly fill out a simple application, accurately read a road map, or locate two pieces of information in a newspaper article. (Source: National Institute for Literacy, NALS 1998)

In Winnebago County, of those who are 25 years and older, 13,142 have not received a high school diploma or its equivalency. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

In their roles as family members, workers, and community members, adults who can read medicine labels and prescriptions, and literature to help them manage an illness, will be healthier.

46% of American adults cannot understand the label on their prescription medicine. (Journal of American Medical Association)

The need to increase ESL services in Winnebago County is evident due to the large population growth in the area of refugees and minority, non-English speaking residents.

- The Hispanic and Latino population increased 174%, from 1,117 people in 1990 to 3,065 in 2000. (Source: Oshkosh Northwestern, March 9th, 2001)
- There are 4,394 households in Winnebago County where a language other than English is spoken and out of these 4,394 households 492 are linguistically isolated. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

I would like to give
The Gift of Literacy...

_____ Enclosed is my donation
in the amount of \$_____.

_____ I would like to become a
volunteer tutor.

_____ I would like to volunteer
in a non-tutoring capacity.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

**OTHER VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES**

- Translation/Interpreting
- Volunteer Reading Assessor
- Fund Raising Events
- Student/Tutor Recruitment

Please Detach and Return

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Literacy Council
In the Oshkosh Public Library**

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We teach...so others can reach.