

# 2014/ 2015

## Annual Report



Jefferson County Literacy Council

218 Wisconsin Drive

Jefferson, WI 53549

920-675-0500

[www.jclc.us](http://www.jclc.us)

## Improving Lives \* Creating Solutions \* Building Stronger Communities

### Community Based Adult Literacy

#### **186 adults participated in JCLC's community programs**

- 131 English language learners received instruction
- 15 Native English speakers received tutoring in basic skills / GED prep
- 40 participated in basic computer skills classes
- 6 enrolled in U.S. Citizenship Class
- 2 individuals earned U. S. Citizenship
- 50 volunteer tutors provided more than 3,200 instructional hours



### Adult Literacy and Criminal Justice

#### **156 incarcerated adults received services at Jefferson County Jail**

- 138 studied Adult Basic Education and GED preparation (including career orientation)
  - 18 attended job skills workshop on interviewing skills
  - 1 inmate completed GED test and successfully completed GED or HSED
  - 36 children received DVDs of their incarcerated parent/guardian reading to them in Storybook Project
  - 2 part time instructors provided a total of 1,010 hours of instruction with participants accumulating over 6,320 attendance hours of learning
- ✓ JCLC continued leadership and expansion with Reducing Recidivism Coalition (RRC)
  - ✓ JCLC served on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)

### Early and Family Literacy

#### **Two book drives collected over 1,100 children's books**

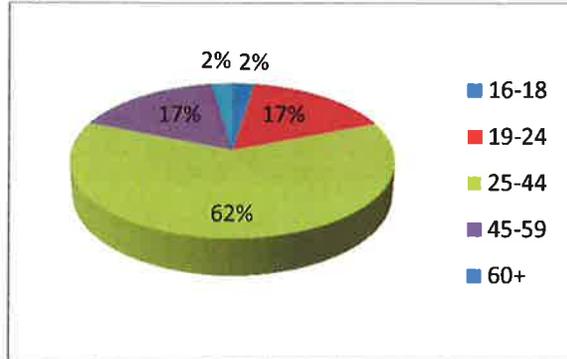
- We Energies of Fort Atkinson employees donated 600 books
- Distributed 600 books to children and families at annual Ready Kids for School event
- Received donation of over 500 books from a retired teacher
- Donated 500 books to the Jefferson County Health Department for home visits

#### **77 served through Health Literacy Initiatives**

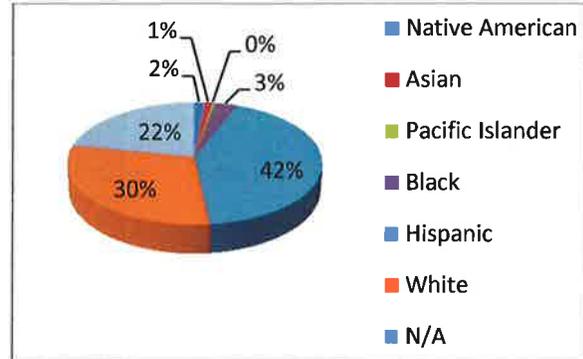
- One medication labeling workshop held with simultaneous translation services
- Conducted three workshops / focus groups
  - Health information software development
  - Health insurance purchasing materials
  - Distributed 50 health information books to Head Start parents

## JCLC Learner Demographics

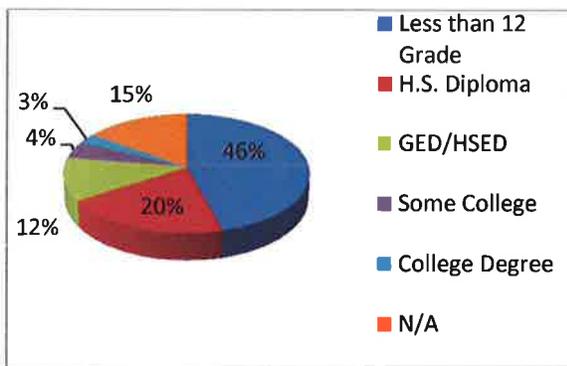
### Age



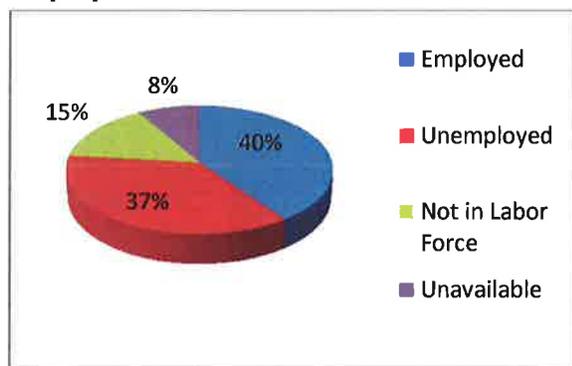
### Ethnicity



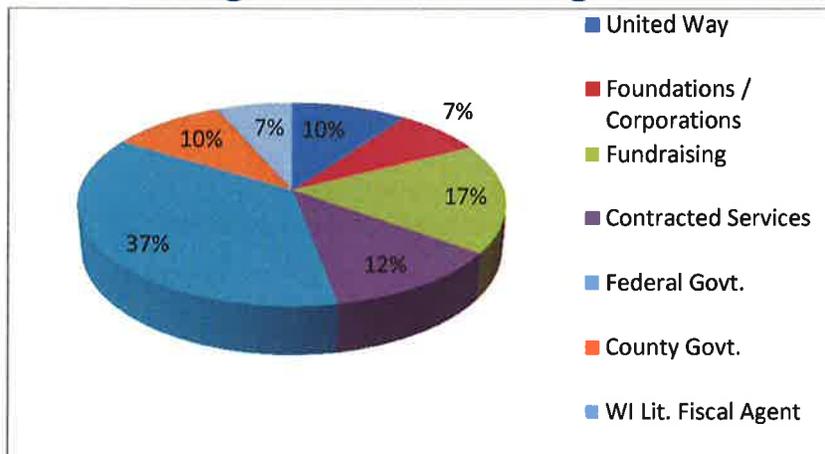
### Level of Education

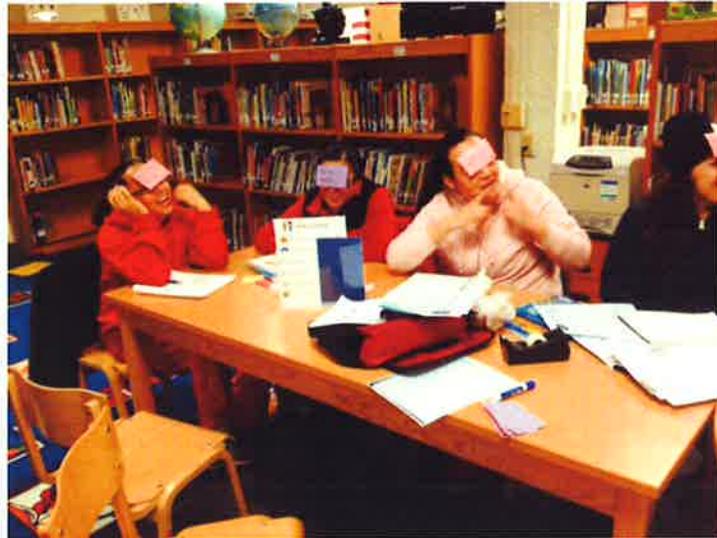


### Employed Status



## JCLC Funding Sources - 2015 Budget of \$165,000





<b>Learn</b>	<b>Serve</b>	<b>Give</b>
<p>If you or any adults you know need help with reading, writing, speaking English, earning a GED, or learning basic computer skills, call the Jefferson County Literacy Council at 920-675-0500 or visit <a href="http://www.jclc.us">www.jclc.us</a>. We will help find you a tutor or a class close to your home.</p>	<p>Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring and small group instruction to adults who want to succeed in school and at work. Fill out a volunteer request form online at <a href="http://www.jclc.us">www.jclc.us</a> to learn more about how you can help.</p>	<p>Support from donors allows us to reach adults who need literacy services in Jefferson County. A tax-deductible donation can be sent to the address below or made online at <a href="http://www.jclc.us">www.jclc.us</a></p>

Our Mission: *Develop a better community through literacy*  
 Our Vision: *To help learners defeat literacy challenges*

**JCLC Believes:**

- **Strong, viable communities are comprised of people who are literate, have good communication skills, are adequately trained in employment skills, possess cross-cultural competencies, and have an understanding of community and social services.**
- **Each individual holds personal responsibility in his or her learning.**
- **Volunteerism provides a very important function in communities; cost-effective, quality services can be provided using volunteers that are well-trained and supported.**



United Way of  
 Jefferson and North  
 Walworth Counties  
 United Way of Watertown





218 Wisconsin Drive Jefferson, WI 53549  
Phone: 920.675.0500 [www.jclc.us](http://www.jclc.us)

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### **Annual Update to the Jefferson County Board February 9, 2016**

#### **What Does JCLC Do?**

- Provides free basic literacy skills instruction to adults utilizing trained volunteers and paid instructors
- Collaborates with private and public providers, businesses and organizations across Jefferson County to foster a community assets approach to serving cross categorical needs of individuals and families
- Attempts to reduce crime and recidivism through correctional education
- Addresses labor shortages of area businesses through workforce development
- Increases opportunities for self-sufficiency and financial independence of participants
- Provides family-based events that foster an awareness of the importance of parents' roles in their children's literacy development and educational process
- Raises awareness about literacy issues and advocates for change
- Provides meaningful volunteer opportunities for adults

#### **Accomplishments in 2015**

Agency and client outcomes for the JCLC are aligned with the expectations of the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014. The agency is charged with improving five core learner outcomes identified by the National Reporting System (NRS): 1. Educational Gain, 2. Enter Employment, 3. Retain Employment, 4. Obtain Secondary Credential, and 5. Enter Postsecondary Education or Training. JCLC's performance on these measures is identified in the FY 14/15 Annual Report.

- Administered first online GED test in the jail; learner passed with honors and earned an HSED
- Added new ESL classes: Waterloo Public Library, Schurz Elementary School in Watertown, U. S. Citizenship at Johnson Creek High School and an evening class at Rock Lake Activity Center in Lake Mills
- We Energies employees conducted a children's book drive and 600 books were distributed at Ready Kids for School event
- 25 new volunteer tutors trained
- Provided internships to one student from Ripon College and an AmeriCorps student from UW-Whitewater; five students from Maranatha University, Madison College and UW-Whitewater were trained as student volunteer tutors
- Conducted three health literacy focus groups on health insurance, health information software, and reading medication labels
- Met with 50 Head Start parents to distribute health and dental resource books in Spanish and English

- Applied for two new grants: 1. DPI 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grant with Watertown Unified School District and the YMCA of Watertown and 2. United States Citizenship & Immigration Services grant with Catholic Multicultural Center
- Hired a new Program Coordinator
- Improved financial status of the organization through increased fundraising efforts

### Goals for 2016

A solid foundation in reading is required to help students learn from complex texts that are used in postsecondary education, job training, and lifelong learning. In 2016, JCLC seeks to place more emphasis on reading instruction for all learners, but especially those individuals who are at the highest levels according to the National Reporting System (NRS) and have a goal of earning a high school diploma and/or entering post-secondary career pathway programs or job training.

- Place increased emphasis on identifying individual client goals and transitioning learners to Madison College for high school completion and/or career pathway training programs
- Train all JCLC staff and instructors in Student Achievement in Reading (STAR) methodology to increase their effectiveness in teaching the essential components of reading to adults: ~~alphabetic~~, fluency, vocabulary and reading comprehension
- Use more contextualized curriculum materials designed for workplace literacy
- Enhance instruction in computer literacy and internet search skills
- Increase the use of technology to accelerate learning
- Implement a lending library at the Jefferson County Jail to increase reading comprehension skills
- Develop and deliver a financial literacy program at the jail
- Introduce a new procedure for administering online GED testing at the jail
- More closely align the activities of the Reducing Recidivism Coalition with the mission of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
- Partner with the Jefferson County health nurses to implement an early literacy program based on the Scholastic Reach Out and Read program
- Increase collaboration with other county agencies and non-profit organizations

The Jefferson County Literacy Council greatly appreciates the funding we receive from Jefferson County and the Sheriff's Department. Together we can build stronger communities through literacy. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Lynn M. Forseth, Executive Director



*IMPROVING LIVES      CREATING SOLUTIONS*

*BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES BY STRENGTHENING SKILLS*

# Thank You to Our Friends of Literacy

The Board of the Jefferson County Literacy Council thanks all of the donors and partners who support our mission. We are eternally grateful for your contributions and cannot do our work without you!

## Funders

Department of Public Instruction  
Earl & Eugenia Quirk Foundation  
Jefferson County  
Jefferson County Sheriff's Dept.  
Jones Chisholm Trust  
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Wisconsin Literacy

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Catholic Multicultural Charities  
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Head Start  
Jefferson County Libraries  
K-12 School Districts  
Madison College  
UW- Whitewater  
YMCA of Watertown

## Professional Associations

Pro Literacy  
Wisconsin Literacy  
WI Correctional Education Assoc.

## Thank You to Our Friends of Literacy

The following organizations and individuals have contributed time, talents, and/or in-kind gifts of food or silent auction items to the Jefferson County Literacy Council. Special thanks go out to the volunteer tutors who are the heart of JCLC and to the members of the Board of Directors for their leadership. Your generous contributions allow us to provide adult education to residents in eight communities throughout Jefferson County.

### Business Friends

Beauty and the Bean  
Chroma Art Bar  
Dancing Horses Theater  
Dwight Foster Public Library  
Eaton Corporation  
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Green Bay Packers  
Harley-Davidson Museum  
Harvest Café – Watertown Hospital  
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Sherry Behnken  
Mary Bielefeldt  
Ellen Bogner  
Kristine Cameron  
Elizabeth Converse  
Judy Cornell  
Barbara Dawson  
Jacob Dillman  
Kay Dries  
John Ebert  
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Allison Gaynor  
John Gengler  
Pat Giese  
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Our sincere apologies if we have inadvertently missed your name. Please notify us so we can recognize your generosity in the future.