

Message from the Executive Director

We are picking up speed. More adults are seeking English language instruction and more volunteers are stepping forward now that we are in a post-pandemic phase.

We enrolled 71 new students in fiscal year 2022, which is almost double the number of students we enrolled last fiscal year. In all, 177 adult students received 3,777 hours of instruction from 137 volunteer tutors.

It costs about \$500 to provide staff support to one tutor/student pair annually. To keep pace with program expenses, we have added an event to our fundraising lineup.

In this issue of "Literacy Matters," you will find out how you can participate in (drum roll, please) the Virtual Walk for Literacy! The key word is "virtual." You do not have to be located in the Fox Valley to participate. For example, if you have moved to another state, you can sign up for the walk and invite your walking community to join as well. My friends and family who reside both inside and outside Illinois can expect an invitation to join "Team Peg."

You will have 4 weeks to walk 6 miles, 15 miles, or 30 miles. You choose your challenge.

All of your walking activity counts. If you have a smart phone, you have an app called "Health," "Google Fit," or something similar. It records your steps. Those steps can be converted into miles and logged. Walking the dog? Taking the stairs at work? Log it!

This is a win-win for everyone. By signing up, you will be supporting a worthy cause, you will log some healthy activity, and you can make a fashion statement, i.e. the T-shirts are pretty darn cute!



Peg Coker
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

VIRTUAL WALK FOR LITERACY

SEPTEMBER 3 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30
<https://www.charityfootprints.com/LiteracyVolunteersFoxValley/>

TUTOR TRAINING

6:30 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS
SEPTEMBER 12, 14, 19, AND 21
ST. CHARLES PUBLIC LIBRARY
[HTTPS://WWW.LVJV.ORG/BECOME-A-TUTOR](https://www.lvfv.org/become-a-tutor)

TUTOR TRAINING

6:30 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
OCTOBER 11, 13, 18, AND 20
ST. CHARLES PUBLIC LIBRARY
[HTTPS://WWW.LVJV.ORG/BECOME-A-TUTOR](https://www.lvfv.org/become-a-tutor)

DONORS' BREAKFAST

NOVEMBER 2022

GIVING TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 28

TRIVIA BEE FOR LITERACY

MARCH 19, 2023
[HTTPS://WWW.LVJV.ORG/TRIVIA-BEE](https://www.lvfv.org/trivia-bee)

Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley

One South Sixth Avenue
St. Charles, Illinois 60174

Phone: 630-584-2811

Email: info@lvfv.org



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Accredited member of

ProLiteracy

Virtual Walk for Literacy

Help us keep pace with program expenses.

On Saturday, September 3, we will officially open the Virtual Walk for Literacy at <https://www.charityfootprints.com/LiteracyVolunteersFoxValley/>

This isn't your average 5K. The Virtual Walk for Literacy takes place where you are, when you want, anytime between September 3 and September 30. Walk solo or join a team. Log your distance online or track progress using your fitness device. Earn e-medals for reaching distance milestones.

On September 3, go <https://www.charityfootprints.com/LiteracyVolunteersFoxValley/> and click on "Register Now." Enter your email and make up a password to create a user login. You're in! Choose a registration level, choose one of three personal fitness goals, and start walking!

Choose a Registration Level



\$30	Basic Registration
\$45	Register at a \$45 level by September 9 and receive a T-shirt. (Color may vary depending on supply chain).
\$65	Register at a \$65 level by September 9 and receive a T-shirt and a medal.

Why not form a team? Invite your friends, family, colleagues, Facebook, and LinkedIn communities to sign up. It's virtual so they can walk whether they live across the street or across the country. See who can walk the longest distance and award them a medal.

Every time you walk, log your miles on your account or by syncing your personal fitness tracker. You will earn personal e-medals as your mileage grows. You will also add to our overall goal of walking 3,000 miles for literacy. You can follow our progress on the Walk website.

Not much of a walker? Any activity counts! The website has a conversion chart so you can turn your physical activities into steps and into miles.

Remember, registration opens Saturday, September 3. Visit <https://www.charityfootprints.com/LiteracyVolunteersFoxValley/> to learn more.

Choose a Personal Fitness Goal

HOW FAR WILL YOU GO DURING THE 4-WEEK CHALLENGE?



6 miles	Walk around the block three times per week and you will hit this goal. It's equivalent to a 10K.
15 miles	This is like taking a nice long three or four mile walk twice a week. You will log about 25 K.
30 miles	Similar to walking a mile a day for four weeks, this goal is like walking a 50K.

New board members provide fresh perspective

We were excited to elect two new members to the board of directors at our annual meeting in June.

Before her recent retirement, **Krista Tracy** worked with Accenture's corporate citizenship team, which helps people from all over the world build their skills and capabilities. Years ago, Krista helped us build our [Pathways to Success](https://www.lfvf.org/pathways-to-success) program, which is still used today. (<https://www.lfvf.org/pathways-to-success>) She is an LFFV tutor and has taught students from Mexico and Haiti.



Krista Tracy

Q: Why did you decide to accept a position on the board?

A: I love LFFV's motto of Literally Changing Lives. I spent the last ten years of my career working on programs around the world to help people build skills and confidence to get a job and succeed in employment. LFFV is a great opportunity to help on a local level for people in our own community.

Q: Tell me about the students you have tutored.

A: It's been so interesting working with learners from different countries and learning about them, their aspirations, and their cultures—Elisa and Gregorio from Mexico, Thierry from Haiti, and Jalila from Sudan (soon). It's been great to celebrate their achievements—from increased confidence and skill in English to raises and promotions on the job.

Q: As a new board member, what have you enjoyed so far?

A: I'm really enjoying the positive energy and experience of Peg and the board. It's been great to see how they continued serving learners and tutors despite the challenges of COVID-19. And I'm excited about our plans to reinvigorate the program to have an even greater impact on our community.



Aline Vivirito-Valais

Aline Vivirito-Valais moved to the Fox Valley last August from France. She is an international educator who has taught middle school, high school, and university-level students at multicultural schools. Mainly, she taught English as a Second Language to French-speaking students. She has a background in communications and education. She is an LFFV tutor who currently teaches a student from Ukraine.

Q: Why did you decide to accept a position on the board?

A: Literacy has long been a passion of mine. When I moved to the Fox Valley, I knew I wanted to volunteer in my new community. Having formerly worked as an ESL teacher, it was only natural for me to pick LFFV. I love being a tutor and when I was approached by other board members to accept this position, I saw it as an opportunity to further connect with the Fox Valley community.

Q: Tell me about the students you have tutored.

A: I started tutoring Nadiia in January. She arrived from Ukraine with her family five years ago. As an absolute beginner, it took her time to build up the courage to start taking English lessons. Seeing her build up confidence as she develops her communication skills has been a delight and I am look forward to seeing where her progress leads her.

Q: As a new board member, what have you enjoyed so far?

A: Spending time with the other board members, I have been stunned by their rigor, devotion, innovative spirit, and creativity. I cannot wait to dive into new projects with these enthusiastic ladies in order to further improve literacy in our community.

STUDENT SUCCESS FISCAL YEAR 2022



WORK

27 new jobs
9 second jobs
7 promotions
5 licensed to practice a job skill
2 Employee of the Month



PERSONAL SUCCESS

6 American citizens
14 preparing for citizenship
46 use computers or tablets
4 preparing for GED



COMMUNITY

21 library card sign-ups
85 library patrons
41 not afraid to talk with English-speakers
8 helped others with English



FAMILY

15 more involved in child's life
17 read to children
4 new homeowners

WELCOME NEW TUTORS

Congratulations to the volunteers who completed tutor training during fiscal year 2022. Thanks to all the volunteers who are helping our adult students reach their goals.

Wendy Allen
 Christina Anderson
 Deb Banion
 Joy Barker
 Judith Bell
 Anna Borzuta
 Mary Combs
 Lynette Cormican
 Diann Corvino
 Beth Davis
 Hans deKok
 Ana Dominguez
 Rachael Fenton
 Sherry Fiorenza
 Francisco Gomez
 Colleen Gracey

Terri Grams
 Thomas Gresge
 Simona Hawk
 Jill Jacobucci
 Anne Karius
 JoAnn Kennedy
 Carl Klemaier
 Bill Koster
 Megan Kowalski
 Donna Krumwiede
 Denise Lemon
 Mary Etta Lenkaitis
 Gail Liberg
 Diane Lincoln
 Mark Macenas
 Sushma Mandava

Nancy Martin
 Sarah McDonald
 Tim McGrath
 Michael Mehren
 Cathy Mollsen
 Sharlene Momich
 Andy Montgomery
 Bernadine Murphy
 Maureen O'Carroll
 Michelle Page
 Sandra Parga
 Sagar Patel
 Kirsten Pehl
 Jan Peters
 Rebecca Peterson
 Maggie Phair

Michele Porter
 Nancy Reinhiller
 Dion Richetti
 Rebecca Rodriguez
 Fred Salas
 Maureen Schultz
 Alexa Schwab
 Laura Shapiro
 Krista Tracy
 Martha Vanko
 Aline Vivirito-Valais
 Susan Wilding
 Jacob Williams
 Debra Wilson
 Mary Wray

Want more information about Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley?

For more information about:

- Being a tutor
- Being a student
- Making a financial donation
- Sharing your ideas

Visit our website www.lvfv.org for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley

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Or email:
info@lvfv.org

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