

Literacy Green Bay

Literacy Green Bay is a non-profit organization in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The organization began in the 1980s in response to the Southeast Asian refugees, the 'clients' were teaching English as a second language. The organization was volunteer lead until the hiring of Evie Jensen and Tori Rader, Evie was hired as the office manager and Tori as the Executive Director. In 1995 the 'client' was able to have their first large group classes, and later that year the first ESL Class Coordinator was hired. The client has made a huge difference for immigrants, students, and English learners in general. When the coronavirus occurred in 2020, the organization was able to adjust by having online tutoring. Immigrants or people that didn't get their high school diploma the traditional way can attain theirs with this 'client.' This 'client' offers many different services based on the needs of each student, the goal is to accommodate each individual seeking to be successful in this country. Literacy Green Bay offers Adult Tutoring, Family Literacy GED Classes, English Language Classes, Citizenship Tutoring, and Computer Access. To summarize it shortly, they are meant to prepare the students by teaching them English. For example, Citizenship Tutoring is a class where the students are preparing for the citizenship exam. Students in the adult tutoring classes work one on one with a tutor based on their goals and needs. The company has been thriving for years, in fact, it is estimated about 800 learners annually are enrolled in the program. They began in 1980 as I mentioned earlier, so they are about a decade away from half a century. This is incredible for an organization that began just to simply teach English to Mounks. Originally, it started because of the immigration from Southeast Asia, and many of them were Mounks, some were the educated Mounks and others

were the lower class, uneducated individuals. The lower-class Mounings were especially uneducated in the English language, and they were just the right people for this 'client.'

The target audience for my 'client' is individuals seeking to learn the English language. Adults seeking basic grammatical, basic mathematics, and basic reading and writing skills are the main target audience for my client. My 'client' started this program in the 1980s to help immigrant refugees, the majority of immigrants migrated to the United States because of the Vietnam War. Therefore, they came unprepared and unqualified for almost any job in the United States because of their lack of language skills. The lack of language competency by the immigrants was undeniably noticeable, and because there was a mass amount of immigrants, my client created a non-profit organization to assist the refugees.

My 'client' sponsors include but are not limited to: United Way (Brown County United Way), A member organization of ProLiteracy, Wisconsin Literacy, American Foods Group, Wisconsin Public Service Foundation, Green Bay Packaging, Schreiber, Georgia-Pacific, and Schneider. The first three sponsors, which are Brown County United Way, A member organization of ProLiteracy, and Wisconsin Literacy, have been my clients' top sponsors for many years. American Foods Group, Wisconsin Public Service Foundation, Green Bay Packaging, and Schreiber are the event bundle sponsors for 2021. The last two sponsors, Georgia-Pacific and Schneider are the classroom sponsors. My 'client' has many sponsors that have helped their non-profit organization for years and will continue to aid them for longer yet. My 'client' has also teamed up with NWTC and Home Community Resource Center to aid students in a program they call, The Children First Family Literacy program. This program is created to assist parents with children that find themselves in this circumstance of needing to get their own education. So in other words, the program allows the children to receive early

childhood education while the parents work on attaining their GED. Once the parents attain their GED they will be able to educate their children. The Green Bay Packers are probably the most popular sponsors of my 'client' and they are one of their prominent sponsors as well. Green Bay is really known for having arguably the greatest and winningest franchise in National Football League history, Green Bay Packers, so, it's really cool that the Packers are sponsoring such an important cause.

My 'client' aims to serve the community of Green Bay. The community of Green Bay is their target audience, and more specifically, community members who are learning English as a second language. Their mission is to help adults and families wanting to learn the English language, the majority of them are immigrants from other countries such as Mexico. My 'client' has had a growing population of students and immigrants from Mexico in recent years. The organization aims to serve those who need it most. My 'client' has been serving people that seek to learn English since the 1980s. The number of people they have enrolled in their organization is increasing yearly. My 'client' aims to serve children and adults. This organization aims to serve minorities.

This is a great organization for adults and children immigrants seeking to learn English as a second language. English is one of the hardest languages to learn, and I know this firsthand because English is not my first language. I picked this organization as my 'client' because I really believe they are doing a service to the community, a life-altering service. I wish I had been enrolled in this type of organization when I was first introduced to the English language. The organization seems to meet the needs of its students by guiding them toward their goals in a timely manner. This organization wants to serve people like myself who are learning English as a

second language. My 'client' aims to serve those who are underserved. My client is a hero to immigrants in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

About Us

Our Mission

Our Mission is to help adults and families acquire the reading, writing, math, English language, computer, and workforce skills they need to function effectively as workers and community members.

Our Vision

Our vision is to build a community literate in the English language.

Our Core Values at Literacy Green Bay are:

Empowering

We empower adults and families to attain self-sufficiency in order to be productive members of society.

Inclusive

We include adults and families from all socio-economic and demographic backgrounds who need literacy skill sets.

Accountable

We are accountable to uphold the highest standards in financial stewardship, educational efforts, and interpersonal relationships.

Collaborative

We collaborate with the community towards a common goal of creating a vibrant, literate society.

Our goals include:

- Building community awareness and support for adult literacy and lifelong learning,
- Better addressing the specific needs of our adult students,
- Increasing program evaluation and accountability systems.

These goals directly support our mission.

“As a new tutor, the training classes and vast resources made available to me have given me a skillset to provide and facilitate learning opportunities for my students. Specifically with access to skilled guidance from Literacy staff and excellent learning materials. I can pinpoint areas of need such as fluency, comprehension, and grammar. Thank you for this program and all you do at Literacy to make the puzzle pieces fit for success.”

- Rosie W. - Tutor in our Adult Tutoring Program

“When I came to the United States 10 years ago, I didn't know any English. I didn't know how to talk, read, and write. Now I can visit my friends and have conversations with them. Little by little I feel more confident speaking in other situations: assisting the teacher in childcare and talking with other people. I am continuously using English because I need to solve many more pieces of the puzzle.”

-Martha O., one of our tutored ELL students

“The Children First Family Literacy program has helped me in so many ways. This program has helped me get the education that I wanted and also helped me open up so many more choices in my life. It has helped me be more confident in myself; I now have everything I need to get a job or go to college. I believe everyone deserves a second chance at getting their education. The doors are now open for me and I am going to walk through those doors and get a job.”

- Anthony R. GED Graduate-March 2013

Works Cited

Literacy Green Bay. (2020). *Home: Literacy-green-bay*. literacy. Retrieved October 21, 2021, from <https://www.literacygreenbay.org/>.