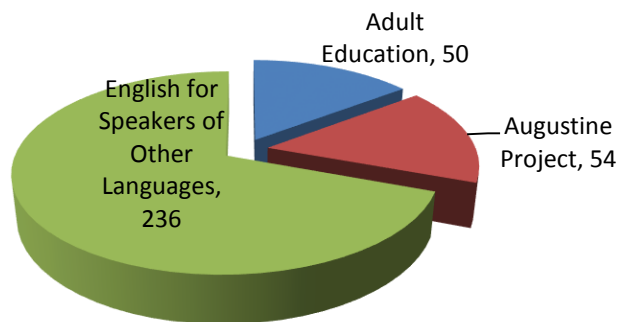


Spring 2016 Fiscal & Program Update

The Literacy Council's 2014/15 Impact

The Literacy Council provided significant instruction to **350 students**, the largest reach in eight years:



Adult Education provides reading, writing, and math tutoring to adults who read at or below a basic skills level.

The Augustine Project provides one-on-one tutoring to low-income children reading below grade level.

ESOL provides one-on-one and small-group instruction to adult immigrants seeking improved English language skills.

Each program met or exceeded state standards for average instructional hour attainment and post-test score improvements. **133 adult student improved scores by a full instructional level or at least 6 points** (roughly the equivalent of a grade level). 17 ESOL students passed the U.S. Naturalization Exam and 3 Adult Education students earned their High School Equivalency Diploma. **84% of Augustine Project students improved post-test scores by more than one grade level.** 3 Augustine Project students met grade level and graduated from the program.

In November 2015, the Literacy Council launched its fourth program, **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.**

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, launched in partnership with Buncombe Partnership for Children, seeks to positively impact the pre-literacy skills and school readiness of children under the age of 5 in Buncombe County. The program mails a free age-appropriate book to registered children each month and offers workshops to families on how to use the books to develop literacy skills in babies, toddlers, and young children. The program currently serves 200 children and has a waiting list of over 150.



Literacy Council of Buncombe County
[Spring 2016 Fiscal & Program Update]

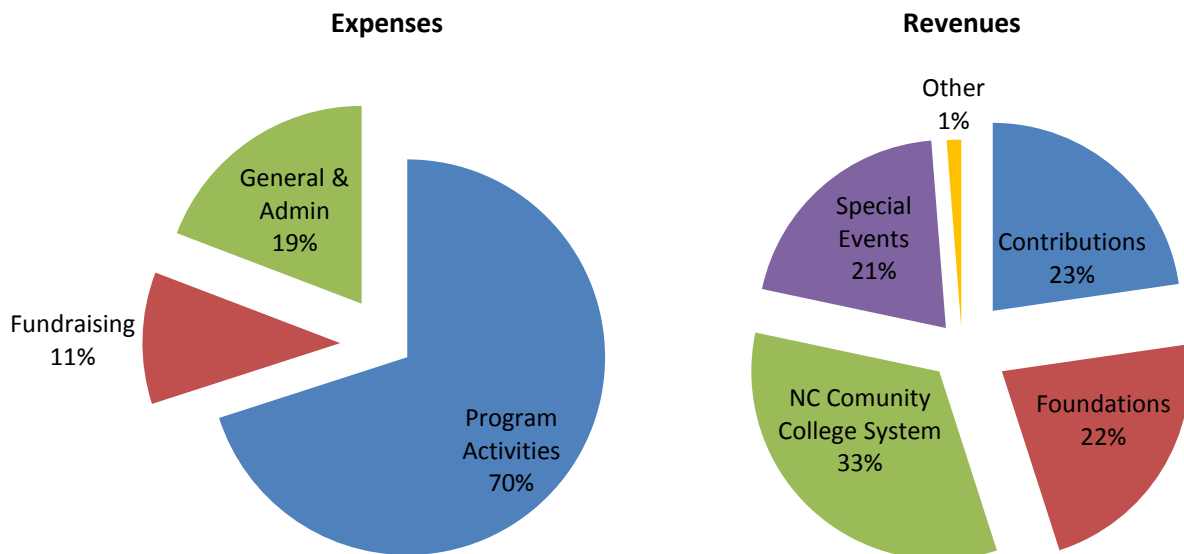


Authors for Literacy Dinner & Silent Auction

In September 2015, New York Times Best Selling author **David Baldacci** was the Authors for Literacy keynote speaker. Joining him on stage was **Adult Education student Molly Hutchinson**. In her presentation, Molly shared her early diagnosis of profound dyslexia. While she struggled with reading, Molly also braved serious health problems for the majority of her life, resulting in frequent school absences. Following a series of operations, Molly's health improved. She felt physically strong but her daily life was significantly limited by her reading struggles—she performed at the kindergarten level. Molly has been working with her tutor, Nance, 2 hours each week for 1½ years. Over this time, she has gained over 5 grade levels of literacy knowledge! Her courage and tenacity earned a standing ovation, as well as David Baldacci's admiration.

Funding Overview

The Literacy Council's budget was \$305,311 in 2014/15.



Staff Team

- Ashley Lasher, *Executive Director*
- Erin Sebelius, *ESOL Director*
- Lily Contorer, *Adult Education & Augustine Project Director*
- Irina Khasanova, *Office Manager & ESOL Specialist*
- LuAnn Arena, *Development Director*
- Mary Elizabeth Borkowski, *Recruitment & Awareness Coordinator*

2015/16 Board of Directors

- Joe Mann-Stadt, *Chair*
- Greg Hammer, *Vice Chair*
- Debbie Motz-Bryenton, *Treasurer*
- Karen Pauly, *Secretary*
- Anne Bleynt
- Laurie Chess
- Aaron Dahlstrom
- Ann Hamilton
- Carrie Myers
- Leah Quintal
- Barbara Kolack-Veach
- Scott Wells

Contact the Literacy Council of Buncombe County:
 31 College Place Suite B-221, Asheville, NC 28801
 (828) 254-3442 | www.litcouncil.com | info@litcouncil.com