

# Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2015/16

**Mission Statement:** The Literacy Council of Buncombe County's mission is to increase comprehensive literacy and English language skills through specialized instruction by trained tutors and access to literacy resources.

336 students received instruction from trained volunteer tutors



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

*2015/16 Impact: 44 students served, 51% improved post-test scores by a full Educational Functioning Level.*



**English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)** provides tutoring to adult immigrants seeking improved English language skills.

*2015/16 Impact: 241 students served, 12 passed the U.S. Naturalization Exam, and one earned her HSE (High School Equivalency) diploma.*



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

*2015/16 Impact: 51 students served, 100% improved post-test scores by at least one grade level.*



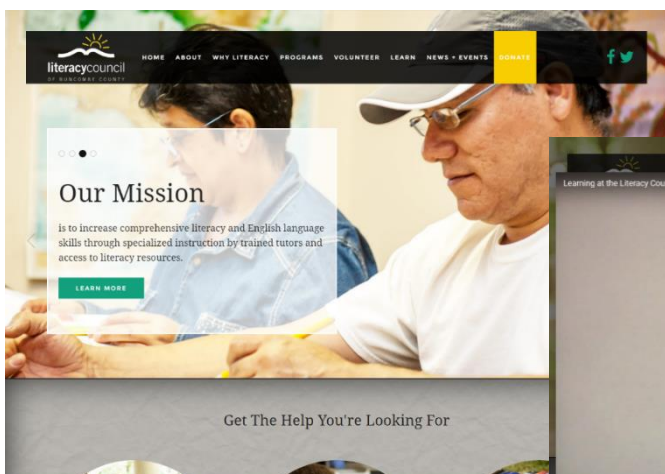
A NEW PROGRAM launched in Nov 2015: **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** mails a free, age-appropriate book every month to children aged birth to five.

2015/16 Impact: 225 children received books, 65 families participated in workshops to learn how to foster pre- and early literacy skills in their children.

*“Alex” was 18 months old when his mother registered for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library. Alex’s family has very few resources: the annual household income for his family of three is less than \$10,000. When Alex was enrolled in the program, his family had fewer than 10 children’s books in their home and no library card. Today, Alex is 2 ½ years old and has received 12 new, age-appropriate books mailed to his home. This more than doubles the number of books that he had access to just one year ago. Alex’s mother reads to him multiple times per week.*

During the 2015/16 fiscal year, the Literacy Council launched a **mobile responsive website and blog**, facilitating volunteer recruitment and allowing us to disseminate information about the issue of literacy. We also introduced a **video** produced by Emmy award winning filmmaker Katie Damien, who was so moved by Adult Education students’ stories that she produced a beautiful representation of their experiences.

*Visit [www.litcouncil.com](http://www.litcouncil.com) to experience the new website and video.*



# Literacy Council of Buncombe County

## [Annual Report for 2015/16]

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### Who Makes This Impact Possible?

#### Volunteers

In 2015/16, the Literacy Council engaged 252 volunteer tutors who generously gave 18,906 hours of instruction and planning—a value of approx. \$450,000 to the community according to the Independent Sector. These individuals, listed below, contribute to student success daily.

Arthur Aaronson  
 Kristina Aaronson  
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 Brian Arnold  
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 Kevin Baxter  
 Ann Marie Behling  
 Brian Benn  
 Tasha Benyshek  
 Liesa Bischoff  
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 Tom Blair  
 Karen Boekschoten  
 Stanley Boyd  
 Douglas Brablec  
 Matt Brantner  
 Susan Brasfield  
 Pat Breher  
 Cristina Brewer  
 Ann Bridgman  
 Maureen Brooks  
 Mike Burgette  
 Carol Burton  
 Hope Butterworth  
 Nichole Calderaro  
 Kirsten Campbell  
 Rhonda Candler Kilby  
 Jill Cargile  
 Aiden Carson  
 Jennifer Carter  
 Tommie Carter  
 Anne Challen  
 Laurie Chess  
 Susanne Chiappa  
 Gracemarie Cirino  
 Julia Clary  
 Robbie Coleman  
 Sharon Collins  
 Dan Cook  
 Kimberley Coyne  
 Katherine Cross  
 Andrew Crosson  
 Jeanne Cumby  
 Vicki Cummings  
 Jennifer Cutright  
 Anne Dachowski  
 Jamie Dale  
 Nance Davidson  
 Kathleen Davis  
 Michael Deem  
 Barbara Demeter  
 Patrick Dennison  
 Alyssa DeRonne

Elizabeth Devereaux  
 Katie DeWit  
 Cheryl Dietrich  
 Lucy Dilworth  
 Mona DiMartino  
 Peg Downes  
 David Dry  
 Sheila Dunn  
 Kay Dunn  
 Brantlee Eisenman  
 Laurie Ekstein  
 John Ellington  
 Laurel Elstrom  
 Day Ann Emory  
 Michelle Ender  
 Michelle Ender  
 Hannah Epperson  
 Denise Ertell  
 Lois Esposito  
 Nancy Feldman  
 Jason Ference  
 Princess Ferguson  
 Ray Ferguson  
 Ayla Ficken  
 Blair Fielding  
 Sandra Frith  
 Christen Fulk  
 Florrie Funk  
 Trudy Galynker  
 Bob Garfield  
 Deana Gasperson  
 Jennifer Gemma  
 Elizabeth Goldsmith  
 Tom Gonzalez  
 Mary Goodkind  
 Betsy Gorn  
 Laura Graham  
 Joanne Gregory  
 Sep Gregory  
 Sybil Groulx  
 Shelley Habif  
 Marilyn Harmaning  
 Amy Hatmaker  
 Conny Hester  
 Kathy Higginbotham  
 Adolph Hoehling  
 Michelle Hoffman  
 Virginia Hoffman  
 Steve Hopkins  
 Allen Horowitz  
 Jennifer Horton  
 Don Howland  
 McChelle Howland  
 Tricia Hynes  
 Teresa Imfeld  
 Dvora Ivankowski  
 Saylor Jessop  
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 Sandra Johnson  
 Sarah Keyser Johnson  
 Leah Joseph  
 Stephen Judge  
 Alicia Kaiser  
 Linda Kane  
 Pamela Keenan  
 Christine Kelly  
 Sandy Kelly  
 Irina Khasanova

Karen Miller  
 Sherrie Mirsky  
 Karen Mouw  
 Margo Mulligan  
 Susan Murty  
 Sue Myers  
 Jann Nance  
 Marianne Newman  
 Nancy Nothhelfer  
 Anne Okie  
 Sioux Olivia

Jerry Sampson  
 Bill Sanders  
 Jeannie Sanders  
 Davida Sara  
 Johanna Schneider  
 Tiffany Schultz  
 Kay Scott  
 Anna Sexton  
 Marilyn Shames  
 Leah Shapiro  
 Robert Shepherd  
 Betsy Sherman  
 Kari Sickenberger  
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 Marijo Simpson  
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 Cindy Vandewart  
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 Ellen Walker  
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 Linda Waterman  
 Stewart Wedthoff  
 Allison Weems  
 Alice Weldon  
 Yvette Wessel  
 Porti White  
 Sarah White  
 Joan R. Wilson  
 Joan Wilson  
 Katie Winchell  
 Debby Wolcott  
 Martha Woolverton  
 Patrick Wright  
 Deloyce Wright-Porrata  
 Janet Yurecka



Telle King  
 Barbara Knock  
 Susan Koesters  
 Mary Koni  
 Annelise Kopp  
 Katherine Kowal  
 Milissa Lang  
 Gail Lankford  
 Sue Larmon  
 Gillian Larson  
 Linda Laufer  
 Dian Leeper  
 Peter Leifert  
 Karen Leonard  
 Susan Lerner  
 Annalisa Littleton  
 Barb Lohf  
 Linda MacKay  
 Carol MacRae  
 Lenore Madeline  
 Jana Mader  
 Terry Marvel  
 Kathryn Massey  
 Sara May  
 Sue McAdams  
 Lynda McCredie  
 Jim McGlenn  
 Marilyn Medican  
 Jenna Melissas  
 Marsha Messer-Bass  
 Jim Meyer  
 Carol Meyer

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 Maggi Ormand  
 Marlee Page  
 Ginny Parker  
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 Hannah Peerless  
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# Literacy Council of Buncombe County

## [Annual Report for 2015/16]

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### Donors

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Little Acorn Fund-H  
Little Acorn Fund-M  
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The Glass Foundation  
United Way of Asheville –  
Buncombe County

#### Government

The N.C. Community  
College System

#### Program Partners

Buncombe Partnership for  
Children  
YMCA of WNC

#### Libraries, Clubs, &

#### Faith Communities

Central United Methodist  
Church of Asheville  
Deerfield Episcopal Retirement  
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First Presbyterian Church  
Friends of Bunc. Co. Libraries  
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Dana Carrico  
Aiden Carson  
James Carter  
Tommie Lynn Carter  
Diane Challen  
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Laurie & Rick Chess  
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Susan Cohen  
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Parker Cross  
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Kathryn Daughton  
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Marcia Davis  
Pat Davis  
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Michael Deem & Elizabeth Ickes  
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Sara Green  
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Jan Griffin  
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Louise Haas  
Bonnie & Maurice Stone  
Greg Hammer  
Wendy Haner  
Elizabeth & William Harlan  
Lauren & Seth Harr  
Clark & Genna Harris  
Mary Jo & Tom Harrison  
Andrew & Janet Hart  
Mary Hart  
Ernie Harwig  
Amy Hatmaker  
Andrew Hauet  
John Hawes  
Arwen Hawes  
Drake & JoAnn Hawkins  
Sylvia Hawkins  
Gary Hawkins  
Dr. Anna Hayward  
Jim & Marie Hefley  
Julie & John Heinitsh  
Kate & Roger Henry  
Laura Herndon

# Literacy Council of Buncombe County

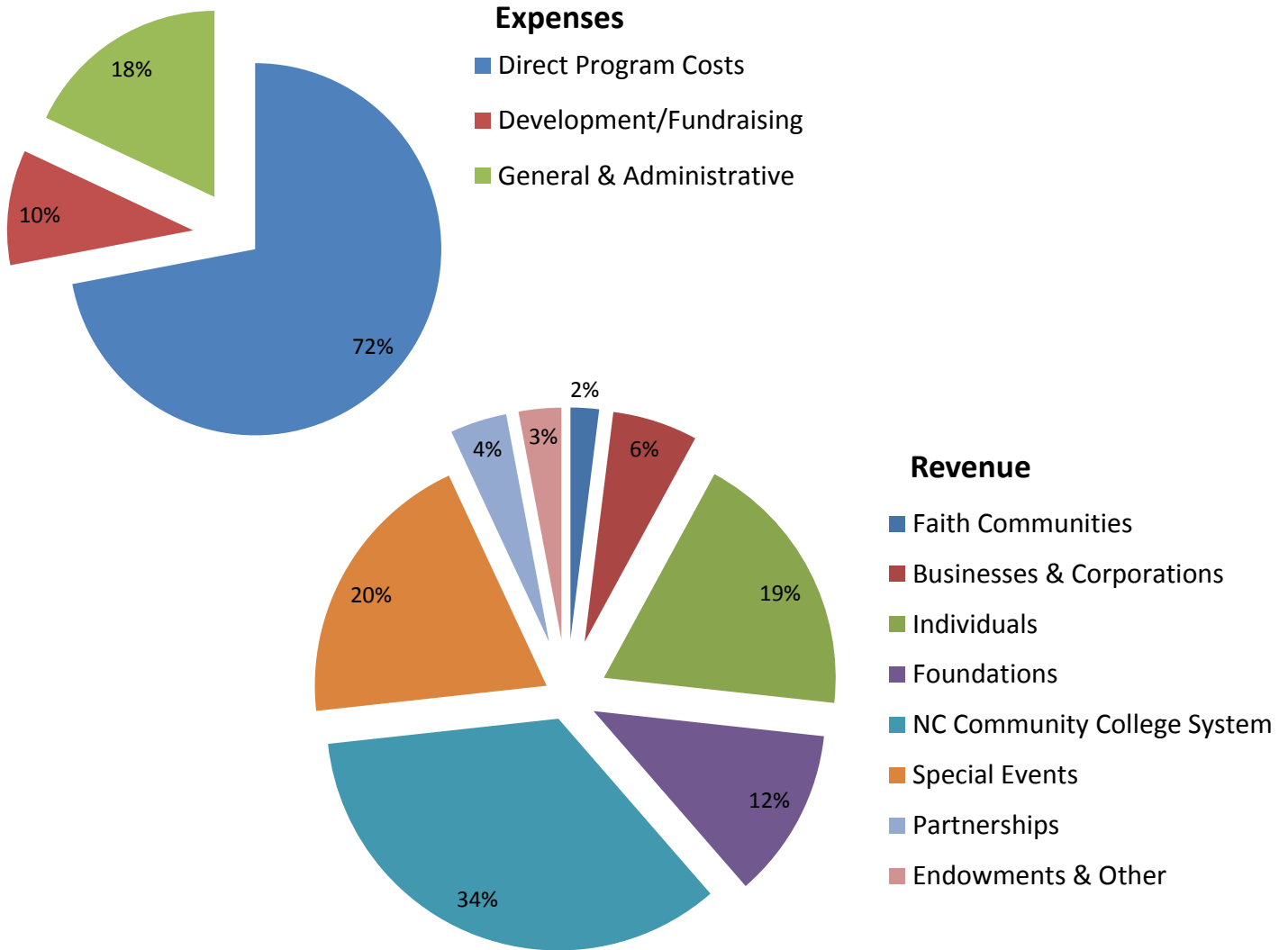
## [Annual Report for 2015/16]

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Stacie & Jim Hicks	Mike & Pat Levi	Mary Parker	Dennis & Linda Short
Greg & Carole Hilderbran	Maya Levin	Tom Parker	Christina Sibley
Jay Hines	William & Barbara Lewin	Shirley Parkin	Barbara Siebert
James Hinson	Judith & John Li	Phyllis Patton	Tammy Silver
George Hodges	Jeffrey Llewellyn	Karen Pauly	Marijo Simpson & Kevin Treakle
Adolph Hoehling	Jeremy Loeb	Janice Payne	Lisa Slocum
Michelle Hoffman	Barbara & Michael Lohf	Carolyn Pearson	Philip Smith
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Fred Hutchinson	Marion Mathews	Patricia Polanski	Lester & Ann Stowe
Dvora Ivankowski	Alexander Maynard	Cathy Pons	Nona Stuck
Steven Jackson	Lynn Sue McAdams	Elizabeth Poore	David Stum & Sheila Lutjens
Kristen Jackson	Kathleen McCafferty	Kim Porter & Brad Kiger	Mary Sugeir
Robert & Karen Jackson	Elise McClintick	Mary Powell	David & Alicia Sweatt
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Brentley & Coral Jeffries	Nancy McCorkle	Tatia & Andres Prieto	Amanda Teems
Rose Jenkins	John McCorkle	Mary Prince	Robert Teller
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Karen Leonard	Marlee Page	Stacy Shields	Lina Zuniga Chan

## How was the Funding Spent?

The Literacy Council's budget was \$319,233 in 2015/16.



### 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*  
 Niki Paganelli, *Recruitment & Awareness Coordinator*

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 Carrie Meyers  
 Leah Quintal  
 Barbara Kolack-Veach  
 Kelly Stokes

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