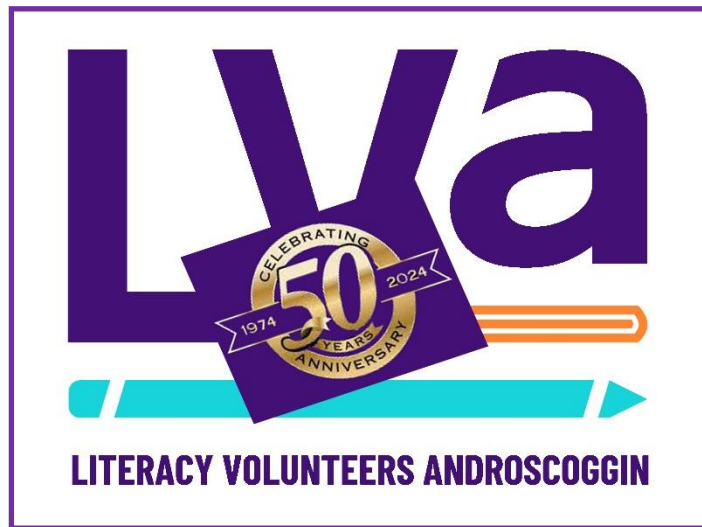


Literacy Volunteers Androscoggin



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



A United Way
Supported Agency



A Lewiston CDBG
Supported Program

A Message from Chairperson Sharon D. Handy

I am pleased to welcome you to Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin's 50th Annual Meeting. We are thrilled to be sharing our golden anniversary with our dedicated volunteers, students and community.

When a group of retired teachers launched Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin in 1974, they had no way of knowing that their efforts would still be improving lives 50 years later.

Our organization has experienced many ups and downs over the past years, including a worldwide pandemic that presented numerous challenges. But LVA survived and we are as committed as ever to providing our students the same life-changing skills.

I am especially excited to announce that starting this summer, LVA will be offering English conversation for the workplace classes at the Broadview Acres apartments in Auburn. Our good friend Mark Schlotterbeck will be returning to teach this class of 11 students.

For the current programming year (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) our agency has served 76 students, 63 of whom are multi-language learners. Our students represent 48 countries, including the United States. While our students come from diverse backgrounds, they all have one thing in common: the desire to improve their literacy skills and their lives. LVA and its tutors represent the ladder that allows our students to reach their full potential.

The important work of Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin often takes place in the quiet corners of the public library or through the Zoom. Our work would be impossible without our community partners, including Androscoggin United Way, the cities of Lewiston and Auburn, Wei Li, Androscoggin Bank and Catholic Charities.

WMTW-TV has provided steadfast support as media sponsor of our largest fundraiser, Scrabble Fest Letters for Literacy, which raised \$8,500 this year. LVA also was delighted to receive \$5,640 from Dollar General and \$4,000 from an extremely generous anonymous donor. LVA also finished second in voting for Bangor Savings Bank's Community Matters More program, which resulted in a \$4,000 donation.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as chair of the LVA Board of Directors for the last nine years. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we salute the inspiring work of our students, staff, volunteers, and tutors as we enter our 51st year!

We are excited for the next chapter and invite you to be part of it!

Sincerely,



Sharon D. Handy

Literacy Volunteers – Androscoggin Director’s Report – Celebrating 50 Years of Service

“We believe the ability to read and write is critical to personal freedom and the maintenance of a democratic society.”

When Ruth Colvin founded Literacy Volunteers of America in 1962, all of the work of the organization was inspired by this powerful premise, and it still holds true for us today.

Education empowers. It provides adults with the tools to make informed decisions, work in the vocation of their choice, help their children succeed in school, and pursue their interests and dreams. It strengthens individuals, families, and communities economically and socially for present and future generations.

All of the remarkable people who have been involved in LV-A have made this possible for many. Over the past 50 years, approximately 1,250 volunteers shared their time and talent to help over 2,000 students gain the skills they needed to improve their lives. More than 200,000 volunteer hours were given by board members, tutors, English conversation partners, trainers, and a host of people that shared their time with us for specific needs, projects and fundraisers, making it feasible for an agency with a tiny staff and budget to provide life-changing services.

Since 1974, our affiliate has grown and deepened its expertise to serve the changing needs of the community. When I first started in 1996, national was adding a component to tutor training about learning disabilities. Nationwide, many of the adults participating in the program had fallen through the cracks either with an undiagnosed learning disability, or a lack of special education services to help them successfully learn to read, write or compute. Retired special education teacher, Judy Webber, became our special education trainer and guru, increasing the depth of our knowledge about this challenging subject and creating additional testing for students. The torch was then passed to Sue Reilly, also a retired special education teacher, who brought her expertise to the training team, as well as to the parents and children in our Knowledge as Power Family Literacy Program.

In 2000, our community became more diverse with the influx of Somali refugees. At the time, 7% of our students were English Language learners and we were in dire need of training to help our volunteers teach them English effectively. We were fortunate to connect with experts from the University of Maine system and volunteers that were working in the local school system who had training in this area. Subsequently, Americorp volunteer, Susan Rottman, helped us develop and implement the English conversation partners program, a modified version of a project she participated in, in New York.

In more recently years, Sara Boss, retired ELL teacher joined our ranks and has become our go-to guru for training and advice for volunteers who are working with Multilanguage learners. To date, we have worked with students from 48 countries, including the United States and are grateful to all of the amazing volunteers that have connected us with new knowledge and resources.

Another shift was necessary during the pandemic, when a group of determined volunteers researched, practiced, and gave us the information needed for LV-A trainers Joyce Bucciantini and Lynn Busch to create a zoom training geared to teaching adult students one-on-one virtually. We went on to adapt tutor and English conversation partners training to a virtual version.

Each and every volunteer has contributed their own expertise, forming the magic glue that has made this affiliate able to grow and meet the changing needs of the community. And every student that has pursued their goals with grit and determination, often while working two or more jobs and raising a family, have been an inspiration.

All of you here and all that have been involved over the last 50 years have realized impressive results. Since formal record keeping in 1996, at least 95% of our students that have participated 50 hours or more have met at least two of their life skill goals. They have earned certificates or degrees, created successful businesses, bought homes, helped their children succeed in school and become leaders in their community.

Heartfelt thanks to all of our LV-A heroes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tahlia Chamberlain, Executive Director



Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin 2023-2024

Board of Directors

Officers

Sharon Handy – Chairperson
Rita James – Treasurer
Judy Vardamis – Secretary

Members

Hope Heath
Jacynthe Jacques
Lony Mugisha
Cecile Thornton

Advisors

Charles Morrison

Staff

Tahlia Chamberlain – Executive Director
Sally Lunt – Assistant to the Director

Mission Statement

Literacy Volunteers provides free, one-on-one tutoring and other educational services to help adults in Androscoggin County acquire the basic reading, writing, and math skills they need to enhance their lives and achieve their personal goals.

LV-A VOLUNTEERS

20 YEARS OR MORE

Norm Chamberlain
Linda Connelly
Marty Corey
Thelma Cunningham

Nancy Daniels
Trena Dubois
Rita James
Susan Reilly
Suzie Stover

15 YEARS OR MORE

Marcia Mullen
Irene Noyes
Bob Pelletier
Pete Small

10 YEARS OR MORE

Wendy Ambrose
Elizabeth Eames
Mary Callahan
Sharon Gray
Jim Handy
Sharon Handy
Justin Leary
Perrin Lumbert
Ginny Marczak
Barbara Marston
Amy McDonough
Jan O'Brien
Susan Onion

9 YEARS OR MORE

Jane Brodsky
Daniel Hamann
Jo-Jean Keller
David Selditz
Judy Vardamis

8 YEARS OR MORE

Susan Lea
Anita Plourde
Lisa Ward

7 YEARS OR MORE

Leslie Brown
Mel Cloutier
Mary Crockett
Stuart Greene
Lena Hann
Ben Lounsbury
Marj Patrick
Bettyann Sheats
Dawn Ward

6 YEARS OR MORE

Sara Boss
Joyce Bucciantini
Ann Tartre

5 YEARS OR MORE

Lynn Busch
David Chittim
Carmen Hunter
Forreste McCormick
Roben Selditz
Paula White

4 YEARS OR MORE

Stephen Burger
Hope Heath
Renee Igo
Heritier Nosso
Cecile Thornton
Keena Tracy

3 YEARS OR MORE

Jane Costlow
Carol Rice

2 YEARS OR MORE

Susan Charle
Peggy Rotundo

1 YEAR OR MORE

Sharon Benoit
Bonnie Bishop
Sarah Cunningham
Grace Drown
Norma Dulac
Jacynthe Jacques
Lyn McNicol
John Miller
Julie Mondro
Sandra Perkins

NEW IN 2023/24

Marita Bryant
Anita Charles
Lynn Geiger
Robyn Gray
Abby Gordon
Joyce Kennedy
Lony Mugisha
Barbara Perkins
Sandra Perkins
Carol Quinn
Ellen Shulman
Ralph Stinson
Kaeli Strout

LV-A DONORS

Androscoggin County
United Way

FOUNDATIONS

Androscoggin County ARPA
Auburn ARPA
Dollar General
Lewiston CDBG
Maine Community
Foundation Donor
Advised Fund –
Anonymous
Literacy Opportunity Fund

BUSINESSES

Androscoggin Bank
Aroma Joe
Bates College Bookstore
Bates Mill Store
Burnt Ends BBQ
Central Maine Credit Union
Chick-a-Dee Restaurant
Community Credit Union
Community Little Theatre
DownEast Magazine
Emerson Toyota
Evergreen Subaru
Fielder's Choice Ice Cream
Franco Center
Home Depot
Lisbon Community Federal
Credit Union
Mac's Grill
Maine Art Glass Studio
Maine Audubon
Maine Family Federal Credit
Union
Maine Mill Museum
Maine Parks & Lands
Marden's
Mike's Carts
Mr. Drew & His Animals,
Too
Platz Associates

Poland Spring Resort
Poland Spring Bottling
The Public Theatre
Theater at Monmouth
Side-by-Each Brewing
Company
The Station Grill Restaurant
Starbucks
Wei-Li Restaurant
WMTW Channel 8 TV

INDIVIDUALS

Valerie Austin
Shirley Babb & David Babb,
in memory Richard Babb
Pamela Baker, in memory of
David Baker
Janet & Fred Bishop
Donna & Ronald Bissonnette
Thomas Boyer
Carmen & Richard
Castonguay, in memory of
Kirk Castonguay
Kimberly Rose Clark
Hon. Robert Clifford
Marjorie Clifford, in memory
of Curtis Webber
Tahlia & Norm Chamberlain
Chapman Trucking
Marty Corey
Poppy & John Connor
Crouch
Rick Diamond
Diane Doak
Cynthia & Peter Elias
Ellen & Elliott Epstein
Bob Gardner
David Gonyea
Alice & David Haines
Sharon & Jim Handy
Lena Hann, in memory of
Wayne & Joe Bagushinsk
Yvonne Hargraves
Lisa & Jeff Harmon
Jill & James Helmkamp
Nina Hicks

Nancy & Stuart Greene
Robert Grieshaber
Melanie Hatfield
Hope Heath
John Hopkins
Nancy Horie
Jacynthe Jacques
Rita James
Jo-Jean Keller
Gail & Cy Kendrick
Lynn & Gary Knight
Dana & Kathering Little
Bonnie & Ben Lounsbury
Laurie Lopez
Nancy McBrady
Sharon McGilvery
Judith Meyer
Chip Morrison
Nanette Olehowski
Marjorie & Jon Oxman
Marj Patrick
Adam Peck
Philbrick Family Fund
Jan Phillips & Dennis
Graffin
Cilla & Ray Potter
Flo Poulin
Sue Reilly
Beth Shea
Diane Sleek
Pete Small
Richard Speer
Suzie & Don Stover
Joe Surace
Bette Thibeault
Cecile Thornton
Ralph Tuttle
Suzanne Tymoczko
Judy Vardamis
Melissa Veilleux
Dr. Edward Walworth, in
memory of his old English
teachers!
Lisa Ward
Bridget & Richard Whiting
Sally Wilson

Literacy Volunteers - Androscoggin
Balance Sheet
As of March 31, 2024

	<u>Mar 31, 24</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1030 · Norway Savings Bank	-180.54
1000 · Petty Cash	100.00
Total Checking/Savings	<u>-80.54</u>
Total Current Assets	-80.54
Fixed Assets	
2100 · Office Equipment	602.00
2200 · Accumulated Depreciation	-602.00
Total Fixed Assets	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>-80.54</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
3010 · Accrued - United Way	63.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>63.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>63.00</u>
Total Liabilities	63.00
Equity	
1110 · Fund Balance	8,507.67
Net Income	-8,651.21
Total Equity	<u>-143.54</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>-80.54</u></u>

Literacy Volunteers - Androscoggin

Profit & Loss

April 2023 through March 2024

	<u>Apr '23 - Mar 24</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4010 · Campaign Income	3,497.62
4030 · Contributions Income	1,260.22
4060 · CDBG	3,640.52
4070 · Designated Donations	1,606.30
4090 · Fed Grants	5,700.00
4096 · Corporate Contributions	359.00
4100 · Foundations	9,025.42
4170 · Scrabble	12,472.52
4180 · Tutor Workbooks	160.00
4300 · United Way	22,000.00
	<hr/>
Total Income	59,721.60
Expense	
6050 · Bank Service Charges	7.63
6100 · Dues and Subscriptions	166.00
6120 · Educational Materials	26.47
6150 · Insurance	
6153 · Liability Insurance	539.00
6155 · Workers Comp	210.00
6157 · Board Liability	573.00
	<hr/>
Total 6150 · Insurance	1,322.00
6242 · Payroll	
6231 · Payroll PPP Tax	0.00
6240 · Payroll - Core	16,890.00
6241 · Payroll - Administrator	39,520.00
6244 · Payroll - KAP	0.00
6245 · Payroll Taxes - Core	4,515.08
6246 · Payroll Taxes - KAP	0.00
6080 · Data Processing Fees	1,304.10
	<hr/>
Total 6242 · Payroll	62,229.18
6250 · Postage and Delivery	261.00
6606 · Web Video Conferencing	109.84
6607 · Web host	199.62
6270 · Professional Fees	
6275 · Accounting	875.00
	<hr/>
Total 6270 · Professional Fees	875.00
6340 · Rent	1,800.00
6400 · Scrabble - Expense	722.44
6490 · Supplies	
6493 · Office	427.63
	<hr/>
Total 6490 · Supplies	427.63
6525 · Tutor Workbook Expense	226.00
	<hr/>
Total Expense	68,372.81
Net Ordinary Income	-8,651.21
Net Income	-8,651.21



Literacy Volunteers-Androscoggin

Board of Directors Candidates for 2024/2025

Officers

Sharon Handy – Chairperson

Rita James – Treasurer

Judy Vardamis – Secretary

Members at Large

Anita Charles

Hope Heath

Jacynthe Jacques

Lony Mugisha

Cecile Thornton