



Annual Report 2010-2011



LITERACY
COALITION
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

Our Vision...

that every child and adult in Palm Beach County becomes a reader.



Our Mission...

to improve the quality of life in our community by promoting and achieving literacy.



THE NEED

1 in **7** adults lacks basic literacy skills

13.5 percent of the **945,843** adults age 25 and older do not have a high school diploma

23 percent of the total births in 2009 were to mothers who had less than a high school diploma

28 percent of public fourth grade students and **55** percent of public tenth grade students read below grade level

Among residents at least five years old, **26** percent speak a language other than English in the home

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Board President.....	2
Message from the Chief Executive Officer.....	3
Literacy Center.....	4
Special Events.....	6
Adult Literacy.....	8
After School Reads.....	9
Budding Readers.....	10
Glades Family Education.....	11
Literacy AmeriCorps.....	12
Parent-Child Home.....	14
Reach Out and Read.....	15
Village Readers Family Education.....	16
Workplace and Community Education.....	17
Donors.....	18
Financial Statement.....	18
Partners.....	19
Board & Advisory Panel.....	20
Staff.....	21

A MESSAGE FROM THE Board President



MAGGIE DICKENSON
Board President

The last twelve months have been an amazing time for the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. I have been honored to serve as President of the Board of Directors of this dynamic organization. We have reached more adults and children in Palm Beach County than ever. We have stretched ourselves to more fully recognize our mission and vision.

First, we started the year by expanding our Literacy AmeriCorps program from 25 members to 40. These young leaders hail from 20 states and are tutoring and teaching in 33 sites throughout the county, inspiring hope in everyone they encounter. Luckily for us, **many of these amazing people choose to stay in our area after their year of service, greatly strengthening our community.**

In March, we celebrated the past, present and future of the Literacy Coalition with a fantastic 20th Annual Love of Literacy Luncheon in West Palm Beach. Our keynote speaker, celebrity chef Curtis Aikens, engaged the audience of more than 650 people with his amazing life story of how he learned to read at the age of 26. He received assistance through an outreach program just like the Coalition's Literacy Hotline program. The luncheon opened



FABIOLA BRUMLEY, Bank of America, with Love of Literacy Luncheon guest speaker
CURTIS AIKENS

with an animation vignette from our creative Luncheon Co-Chairs and included a "Stars Wars" inspired video of our past, present and future.

Lastly, the Coalition has embarked on our first capital campaign. With a transformative initial gift from an anonymous donor, we have advanced **the dream of a permanent home in Palm Beach County for literacy** closer to reality. At this time, more than 280 individuals have donated or pledged funds toward a Literacy Center for Education, Training and Outreach. This Literacy Center will be a beacon in our community and will help us take the mission and vision of the Literacy Coalition to new levels.

We are thankful for our North County and South County Advisory Panels. These local leaders support our efforts throughout the year within their spheres of influence. We also thank the hardest working Board of Directors in Palm Beach County. All 33 members contribute in unique and valuable ways every day. And, of course, our remarkable staff and our incredible CEO, Darlene Kostrub, are central to the success of the organization. With all of these marvelous people supporting our efforts, we are poised to more fully embrace our mission in 2011 and beyond!

A MESSAGE FROM THE Chief Executive Officer



DARLENE KOSTRUB
Chief Executive Officer

One of the most gratifying parts of my job is talking with individuals whose lives are being transformed by the Coalition's literacy services. Recently I was visiting in the home of a family who has been part of the Coalition's Parent-Child Home program. The family lived in a very small, simple apartment with few furnishings, but it was filled with love and appreciation. The parents said through tears of gratitude that their son had been virtually non-verbal when he started the program and now he has a rich vocabulary and loves books and reading. Their hearts were overflowing with thanks.

We have had equally rich experiences working with adult learners throughout the year. The Coalition asks local literacy programs to nominate adults in their programs who display leadership potential to be part of the Coalition's **Adult Learner Leadership (ALL) Board**. These adult learners from all over the county meet several times a year to develop leadership skills so they can be articulate spokespersons for literacy at their programs and in the community. At a meeting held at WPTV NewsChannel 5, the adult learners had the opportunity to tour the station and gain an understanding of television operations. They had terrific exposure to great works of art when the Norton Museum hosted another meeting of the ALL Board. The adult learners

also participated in a thoughtful exercise on the Bill of Rights.

Dr. Robert Needlman, co-founder of the national Reach Out and Reach (ROR) program and professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine was the featured speaker at the annual Reach Out and Read training dinner. Dr. Needlman gave a most interesting presentation on "The Neurology of Reading" and wove scientific information regarding the brain with the reading process. The 50 medical staff members who implement the ROR program in their clinics left the training inspired to integrate emergent literacy advice into the well-child visits in their practice.

Bullying has been all over the news during the last two or three years as a national, as well as local, problem with disastrous consequences. In response to this issue, the Literacy Coalition, in partnership with Prime Time of Palm Beach County, developed a literacy based anti-bullying pilot component of the After School Reads program that focuses on **"Turning Bullies into Buddies."** A Coalition employee trains staff members at after school programs on how to use literacy based materials to foster strategies that give teachers and students tools to help prevent bullying. It is anticipated that this program will grow during the coming year.

"...lives are being transformed by the Coalition's literacy services."

Literacy Center

To give literacy a permanent home
in Palm Beach County

JOIN ME IN MAKING THE
LITERACY CENTER A
REALITY!



GALE G. HOWDEN

Campaign Chair
Founding President
Literacy Coalition of
Palm Beach County

Twenty-two years ago I had the privilege of helping found the Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition. Our goal was to coordinate services of the many literacy programs in the area and bring attention to the importance of literacy in our society. Since 1989, the Coalition has grown from a small all-volunteer board of directors with no staff into a well-run, respected organization with 49 dedicated, talented employees and 40 AmeriCorps members who have a passion for literacy. More important, the Coalition has developed needed literacy programs that help more than 35,000 children, youth and adults at 110 sites gain the skills they need to succeed as students, parents and employees.

The creation of a Literacy Center will allow the Coalition to expand its services by giving space for training of volunteer tutors, home visitors, reading partners, literacy providers and AmeriCorps members. It will also create space for an after-school tutoring program for kids at risk. Because of the opportunity to expand these important services to meet growing needs, I am honored and excited to serve as Campaign Chair to lead this effort to establish a permanent home for literacy.

I invite you to join me in making the Literacy Center a reality.

Gale G. Howden



Initiated with a lead gift of \$1.8 million from a devoted literacy supporter, the capital campaign has grown to include contributions from more than 280 donors. More than \$2.1 million of the total project cost of \$3.5 million has been raised. To bring the campaign to a successful conclusion, gifts of all sizes are needed and may be pledged over three years. Naming opportunities are available upon request. To contribute to the Literacy Center Capital Campaign, please contact: **Darlene Kostrub, Chief Executive Officer, (561) 279-9103.**

As the only facility of its kind in Palm Beach County, the Literacy Center for Education, Training and Outreach will make possible:

Expanded training opportunities

In collaboration with more than 150 program partners, the Literacy Coalition will be able to conduct on-going training to ensure that services are being provided according to the best practices in the field. A resource library will be created for those who want to learn about the latest literacy research. Through its extensive connections with regional and national experts, the Literacy Coalition is uniquely qualified to provide these services to the community.

On-site assistance for children who need help with their homework

For many years, the Coalition has received calls from desperate parents seeking help for their children who are failing and need individual help. There have been few places to refer these families. The Literacy Center for Education, Training and Outreach will be able to provide this service by using the skills of community volunteers who have great talents to share, but have lacked a place to connect with the children who need their help.

Expanded opportunities for adult learners

The Literacy Coalition will also be able to match volunteer tutors who complete the Coalition's tutor training course with the adults who call the Literacy Hotline. One-to-one tutoring provided in a safe, supportive environment will expand the opportunities for adults who are working to improve their skills – and their lives.

Increased capacity to sustain established programs and develop new ones

As needs are identified, opportunities will be explored and solutions implemented. The Literacy Coalition has a record of success in addressing the literacy needs of the residents and is the logical agency to expand its services as the demographics of Palm Beach County continue to evolve.

THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Laurie L. Gildan
Building Committee Chair
Former President
Literacy Coalition of Palm
Beach County
Gale G. Howden
Capital Campaign Chair
Founding President
Literacy Coalition of Palm
Beach County

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sara Jo Kobacker
Danielle H. Moore
Geoff and Elizabeth Neuhoff

LITERACY COALITION OFFICERS

Maggie Dickenson, President
Bob Patterson, Vice President
Joan Williams, Vice President
Phil DiComo, Secretary
Lisa Koza, Treasurer
Susan Rabinowitz,
Parliamentarian

Special Events



DOLLY HAND personally presented cyclists their medals at Loop the Lake for Literacy.



The law firm of Greenberg Traurig won first place in the **Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee** held in September at the Harriet Himmel Theater with Florida Crystals Corporation and LaBovick Law Group placing second and third. Northern Trust and Florida Crystals cheered on their teams in a big way to win the Team Spirit Awards.

In October, the public had the opportunity to learn about all area literacy programs in a **Literacy Expo** coordinated by the Literacy Coalition. Both adult and children's literacy programs were represented at the event. **Peg Tyre, author of *The Trouble with Boys***, gave a very thought-provoking address that helped literacy professionals think through how best to reach boys to engage them in reading activities.

For the fifth year, the Coalition coordinated the local **Read for the Record Day**, in partnership with

the national Jumpstart organization. This initiative seeks to engage the most adults reading to the most preschool children on the same day throughout the country. More than 2,000 adults, including representatives from Family Central, Florida Power & Light, Jarden Consumer Solutions, Kiwanis Club of Jupiter-Tequesta, Lynn University, Office Depot Foundation, Palm Beach Atlantic University, PBC Fire Rescue, Palm Beach Flagler Rotary Club, Velocity Community Credit Union and many local municipalities read *The Snowy Day* to 28,000 children in child care centers throughout Palm Beach County. A focal event was held at Palm Beach Ice Works in West Palm Beach with 100 children being able to watch ice skating, many for the first time. They also enjoyed snow cones and heard local celebrity readers John Favole, Stephan Holt, Tanya Rogers and Leslie Gray Streeter read favorite

children's books about winter. Craig Grant, regional president of PNC Bank which served as a sponsor of the celebration, also read to the children.

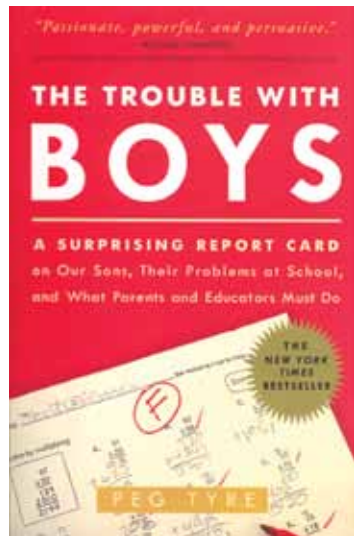
On April 2, more than 210 cyclists participated in the Coalition's inaugural **Loop the Lake for Literacy around Lake Okeechobee**. Most of the cyclists rode the metric century with others doing 25 and 50k while 37 cyclists completed the entire loop of the lake - a 124 mile journey! Steve Leveen and other staff from Levenger contributed greatly to the vision and implementation of the event on the most glorious weather day possible. The Belle Glade Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce were great partners for the event and many other sponsors, including Florida Crystals and Park Avenue

BBQ & Grille, made the day a success. Cyclists are already planning for the 2012 Loop the Lake!

In April, more than 200 adult learners celebrated writing at the **Adult Essay Reception, sponsored by TD Bank**. More than 850 adults had submitted essays on the subject, "The most important thing I've learned about life is..." Several adult learners read their essays that described vividly the struggles they had been through on their journey to literacy and freedom. Jay Cashmere, news anchor at WPTV NewChannel 5 and Fox 29 News, shared his personal experiences with reading and education. Thanks goes to all the individuals who read and judged these 850 essays giving words of affirmation to the essay participants.



Cyclists came together to support literacy on April 2 at Lake Okeechobee for **LOOP THE LAKE FOR LITERACY**.



Literacy Expo guest speaker **PEG TYRE** discussed what parents and educators can do to help children succeed in their education.



Adult Literacy

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Outreach efforts are targeted at the thousands of adults in Palm Beach County whose lack of literacy skills makes them unemployed or underemployed. Persons for whom English is a second language are also recruited for English classes that serve the needs of many nationalities in our county. Volunteers are recruited, trained and placed to assist adult learners.

1,587 Literacy Hotline calls were received.

1,284 adult were connected to literacy programs.

158 volunteers were trained to be adult literacy tutors.

303 volunteers were provided with tutoring information.

181 outreach sites were visited.



Adult Essay Contest honorees celebrate with speaker Curtis Aikens at the Literacy Luncheon.

I'm a very fortunate 70 year old retiree living in Palm Beach County, blessed with good health, a decent pension and lots of free time.

I decided to research local not-for-profit organizations and was most impressed with the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County. The Literacy Coalition works to encourage, support and promote literacy throughout Palm Beach County. One of the great programs provided by them is the recruitment, training and assignment of volunteer tutors to adult education facilities around the county. After considering my good fortune, I decided to do something productive with my free time and give to others less fortunate than myself.

Of all the things I could volunteer to do, the very best choice for me was to **help people obtain the tools they need for happiness and success.** I also concluded that no

tool was greater or more important to people than the ability to read, write and understand the world and the society where they live and work.

For more than two years, I have been volunteering my free time to the Coalition by tutoring adult students at Jupiter Community High School. As a retiree, I can't think of anything that has been more enjoyable, rewarding or given me a greater sense of productivity or accomplishment. My students are dedicated and enthusiastic—they want to learn to read. It's amazing to see their progress. I urge everyone with time to spare to contact the Coalition and find out what you can do to help others and yourself.

Happy Tutoring!

Art Teolis
Jupiter Community High School

After School Reads

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

After School Reads meets the diverse needs of after school staff members by training them on strategies that infuse reading and writing activities into after school activities. The After School KidzLit program, produced by the Developmental Studies Center, is used to provide easy to understand strategies to help counselors make reading an enjoyable experience. KidzLit is a comprehensive plan to actively involve the children in fun, hands-on activities while reading quality literature that relates to their everyday lives. Sites also participate in the Reading is Fundamental National Book program, giving children the opportunity to select a book to keep three times over the course of a year.

Training/modeling/observations were conducted for **320** staff members at **25** sites.

13 family reading nights were held with **365** adults and **533** children.

More than **16,500** books were distributed through the After School Reads program and Reading is Fundamental.

95 percent of trained After School practitioners are fully implementing the KidzLit curriculum.



The City of Greenacres has been a partner with the Literacy Coalition's After School Reads program since 2005. The initial trainings were with KidzLit curriculum that gave us many new strategies and ideas about how we could link literature to other activities and make reading fun! **KidzLit has sparked a tremendous interest in reading** at our program. This year our third graders read more than 100 books, provided by the Literacy Coalition, within a month as part of a reading challenge. Our implementation of the KidzLit strategies has helped our program achieve the highest Quality Improvement System (QIS) score in Palm Beach County.

We have recently begun working on a new program with After School Reads, KidzMath, which is

linked to national math standards. KidzMath makes another subject that strikes fear in the hearts of children incredibly fun and engaging. By using high quality works of literature to spark interest in mathematical concepts, the KidzMath curriculum helps children not only enjoy reading but also feel more comfortable working together to apply basic math skills in problem solving.

Over the past few years we have seen a **significant increase in the FCAT scores** of our children which we credit to the work After School Reads has done through KidzLit. We anticipate similar increases in FCAT math scores in the upcoming year because of KidzMath.

Jowie Mohammed
Acting Youth Programs Supervisor
Greenacres C.A.R.E.S.



Budding Readers

Glades Family Education

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In the Budding Readers Program, Reading Partners make books come alive weekly with three-year-old children in child care centers to help them blossom into life-long lovers of books, reading and learning.

Reading Partners at **13** partnership sites served **328** children.

88 percent of children demonstrated development in early literacy skills to prepare them for future success in school.

6,404 books were distributed to children to begin a home library.



My son Ali was quite shy and it was like pulling teeth to get him to talk about books and verbalize, but that all changed when he started reading with Miss Ruby in the Literacy Coalition's Budding Readers program. Now his face lights up when he sees books and he has come out of his shell. He has taken a special interest in reading and books.

At home **he wants to keep a reading log** just like his older sister does for school and he tries to read to his younger brother, Taylor. When he shows me one of the take home books he received from the program he says, "This is what Miss Ruby does" pointing to the title of the book, turning the pages and telling me all about the story. *The Snowy Day*

is his favorite take home book from the program.

I have also noticed Ali trying to write more letters. I keep magnetic letters on the refrigerator and he will point to the letters he recognizes. Then he will show me how Miss Ruby works with him to learn the letters in his name and the alphabet.

Miss Ruby is always so happy to be with the children. When she speaks to the children her voice is always soft and respectful and her warm smiling face is like sunshine. **My son is truly blossoming** in his love of reading and books through the Budding Readers program.

*Shantoria Burns, Parent
Tiny Tikes Academy*

friends from school. "I couldn't be on top of things because I didn't understand. Also, when Michelle broke her arm, I had to take her to the doctor several times. I had to sit and wait for hours until someone who spoke Spanish could help us. I decided that things could not go on like this for the rest of my life. I had to learn English!"

Yolanda's enthusiasm and desire to learn have allowed her to have outstanding improvement. "I am so grateful to have a school in this community where not only I can improve my English but also because my daughter is learning in the same school while I take my class." Michelle has changed a lot according to her mother. "She is much more outgoing and talkative and she knows a lot more."

"Mom, hurry up! We need to get back in class!" says little Michelle Ramirez to her mother Yolanda, who, with a patient tone, a smile on her face and a sense of pride perceivable by everyone around them, replies, "Hold on, Mami, let me finish my lunch!"

Yolanda could not speak any English when she came to this country in 1999. "I had to get a job in the fields because there it doesn't matter if you speak English or not," says Yolanda. Several situations fueled Yolanda's commitment to learn English. "My oldest daughter was having trouble at school and **I could not communicate with her teachers** unless there was an interpreter available." Yolanda was also worried that she could not understand what her daughter was saying when she talked to her



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Glades Family Education program serves adults and their preschool children from Belle Glade, South Bay and Pahokee. The majority of the adults are learning English as a second language while improving their reading, writing and literacy/life skills. A preschool class operates for the young children of the adult students. They are learning early literacy skills to enable them to succeed in kindergarten. The primary focus of the program is changing lives by educating the whole family.

127 adults and **22** preschool children were served.

93 percent of the adult students tested demonstrated learning gains in reading and language skills.

100 percent of the preschool children made age-appropriate gains in their school readiness skills.



Literacy AmeriCorps

...getting things done.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Literacy AmeriCorps program recruits recent college graduates from across the United States to spend a year improving literacy skills in Palm Beach County. We are currently in our third year as a state AmeriCorps program with support from Volunteer Florida and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Our AmeriCorps members are serving at 33 sites including libraries, family literacy programs, adult literacy centers, schools, community organizations, afterschool programs and preschool centers. At least two Saturdays per month members give extra time volunteering with community organizations in service projects. These projects have included building homes with Habitat for Humanity, helping out at Special Olympics events, creating children's literacy projects at local schools, gleaning vegetables for local food banks, participating in homelessness awareness events, beach cleanups and many more.



Sharee is one of the first students I met at my service site. When we first met, she was a very shy, six-year-old girl who had already fallen behind in school. **She struggled greatly with reading** and when we began reading together her mistakes would visibly upset her. This resulted in her being completely unenthusiastic about reading and I could see she dreaded our sessions together. I knew it was going to take a lot of work, but I was committed to helping her improve her reading skills.

Week after week, we read together. At first, most of our time was spent with my reading to her. As she continued to learn new words and her phonetic skills

improved, however, she became more eager to read on her own. Eventually, she began to read entire books independently! **I've also noticed an increase in her confidence** as a result of her improved reading. And somewhere between our, "an author writes the story" chants and the silly games we'd play after reading a book, she began to open up to me. Now, every time she sees me she wants to know when we're going to read again! I feel fortunate to have worked with her and I look forward to continue helping her with reading!

Andy Chiamopoulos, serving at Boys & Girls Club Riviera Beach

As a GED tutor with the homeless population, I have seen many individuals whose pasts are littered with abuse, neglect and mistakes that will haunt them for the rest of their lives. My primary goal is to help my clients obtain their GED and gain employment.

When one of my clients, James, first came to me, he was totally unable to make eye contact or utter a complete sentence to anyone other than his case manager. I could barely understand his muttering when he said he wanted help obtaining his GED. I did, however, notice that **he was holding a well-worn novel** in his lap, and I asked him if reading was a hobby he enjoyed. He sheepishly explained to me that reading was the only thing that allowed him to mentally escape from his tiny jail cell where he had spent many years of his life.

It was during his time in prison that James became silent. Although large in stature, James' appetite for violence is small. If he became invisible, he could avoid and, with the help of

books, escape the conflict which is ever-present in prison. It was with this attitude that James survived. Although James' years of silence had almost completely eroded any evidence of self-esteem, I knew that his love of reading would prove to be beneficial in our sessions and would be the base on which to rebuild his confidence.

After several weeks of tutoring, James began to speak more freely in our sessions. I began to notice him interacting with others. Best of all, **James recently applied and was accepted into a maintenance apprenticeship program**, something he never would have had the confidence to pursue.

It is with this new sense of self and hopeful outlook of the future that James continues to strive for his goal of obtaining his GED. My expectations for James are exceedingly high, and I am honored to have been a part of his remarkable transformation.

Rachel Cannon, serving at The Lord's Place



593 adult learners were assisted with reading and English.

482 children received tutoring and literacy enrichment to improve reading skills.

308 volunteers were recruited, supported or trained and gave **1559** volunteer hours at service projects and literacy programs.

1009 at-risk youth were coached, tutored and mentored for academic success.

Members participated in **61** community service projects.

40 full time AmeriCorps members contributed **68,000** hours of service in tutoring, mentoring, community service events and volunteer recruitment.



Parent-Child Home

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Parent-Child Home program (PCHP) is one of the most intensive home visiting programs in the country. Twice weekly home visits provide new books, educational toys and activities to families with preschool children. Home Visitors role model for parents how to appropriately use the program materials with their children to promote verbal interaction, parent-child bonding and school readiness.

More than **7,860** home visits were conducted with **264** families.

More than **1300** books and toys were distributed.

100 percent of families increased positive verbal interaction.

100 percent of children increased positive behaviors.



Four-year old Randy graduated from the Parent-Child Home program (PCHP) this year. His progress has been remarkable. The PCHP staff who served him believe that **Randy is now ready for kindergarten** without ever having entered a preschool classroom.

When Juana Paiz, his PCHP home visitor, met him in January 2010, Randy's activity level was too high to participate in the 30 minute sessions for more than a few minutes. He had only a few, unintelligible words and there were no children's books in his home.

Through the carefully selected literature that the Parent-Child Home program provides to its clients, **Randy fell in love with books immediately.** Juana began using different

methods, such as music, to capture his attention during the sessions. Randy's mother and father became increasingly involved with the sessions, together and on rotation, when unexpected work demands arose for them.

At the end of Randy's program year, he was speaking in clear, full sentences and was able to sit with attention for the entire 30 minute sessions. Randy now has a small library of books in his home provided by the Parent-Child Home program.

His parents took the time to write a letter to thank the PCHP staff for helping teach their son to pay attention and behave. They shared that they believe the Parent-Child Home program is the best thing that ever happened to their family!

Reach Out and Read

The Read Out and Read program helps my practice so much! I find the children now come in asking for a book instead of a lollipop. The literacy message is particularly important with our populations where nearly **50 percent of the children suffer from speech delay.** I love that the program gives me a book that I can use as a tool to work with the parents and children to show them all the wonderful things that can come from reading. For low socioeconomic groups, books are a luxury that they can't afford. The outreach stickers on the back of the book allow me to help the whole family. We show the stickers with the 1-800 number so that the

parents can call and get help for themselves as well.

We enjoy all the different picture books with words to name different objects. I use it to teach mothers to do speech therapy at home. They also are a great tool to teach English to our preschool children. Spanish speaking mothers also learn English with their children using the books.

We are so grateful to the Reach Out and Read program for this unique and wonderful opportunity to improve literacy and reading skills in our families.

Lourdes Nieves, MD, FAACP

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Reach Out and Read is a national, evidence-based program that enables area medical practitioners to incorporate early literacy development among the families they serve. Practitioners are trained to address literacy concerns in well-child visits and participating families receive a new book at each well-child visit from six months to five years of age.

53,695 new books and **2,870** used books were distributed to **29** clinics.

26,847 children were served.

71 medical practitioners participated in the program.



Village Readers Family Education

Workplace and Community Education

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Village Readers Family Education program in Delray Beach provides literacy instruction for adults and their elementary school age children. The adults who attend classes in the evening develop literacy skills to prepare them for further education and/or enhanced employment possibilities. The children receive individualized reading instruction and participate in reading enrichment activities in the afternoon. There is a children's program with educational activities in the evening during the hours that their parents attend class.

139 adults and **60** children were served in the evening program.

24 children received afternoon tutoring in reading and compensation skills.

83 percent of these children made significant improvement in reading.

86 percent of adults tested demonstrated learning gains in literacy skills.



Rose Marie and Louis Charles Tervil have been enrolled in the Village Readers program for approximately six months and are already pleased with their language and literacy gains. Rose Marie has noticed that English speakers have an easier time understanding her due to **improved pronunciation skills**. Previously, Louis Charles had to rely on his co-workers at a Boca Raton golf course to translate for him. Now he is happy to have gained confidence and the ability to use English to ask for instruction and clarification.

In addition to helping Rose Marie and Louis Charles improve their literacy skills, Village Readers is also working with Karen, their first grade daughter. Karen receives one-to-one reading tutoring twice a week. Within just six months, she has moved up a reading level and is continually making gains. By learning English, Rose Marie and Louis Charles are better able to help

and support their three children. Prior to taking English classes, they didn't attend SAC (School Advisory Council) meetings at Village Academy. Since beginning classes in the fall, however, both Rose Marie and Louis Charles have participated in the SAC meetings and become more involved in their children's education.

Rose Marie and Louis Charles continue to set goals and work towards their aspirations. **Rose Marie recently earned her Florida Certified Nurse's Assistant license**. She would like to advance her medical career by becoming a Registered Nurse, while Louis Charles would like eventually to open his own specialty food store in the Haitian community. Recognizing that English is an important tool for reaching their goals, the Tervils are grateful for the opportunity to attend the Village Readers Family Education program.

Maria Alicia Velassquez was born in El Salvador. She has worked in the housekeeping department of the Ritz-Carlton for several years. During this time she has only spoken Spanish to her supervisors, co-workers and the Human Resources staff.

Working life can be difficult if you are not able to communicate with the English speaking guests you are serving. Maria took advantage of the offer of Literacy Coalition English classes and became one of the 18 employees at the Ritz-Carlton to sign up for the class and graduate.

On the first day of class, Maria arrived not being able to speak any English. She was very shy and was having a hard time with pronunciation and was quite frustrated. But with great perseverance, attending almost every

class and having a wonderful attitude as well as a sense of humor, **things started to change**. Maria went from being timid about speaking in class to wanting to speak all of the time. Her pronunciation began to improve. She was learning English and before you knew it, she was one of the most energized students in the class.

Recently as Maria's teacher was walking down the hallway to her class, she was stopped by the housekeeping supervisor. She told the instructor that for several years Ms. Valessquez would only speak Spanish and now is speaking to her, co-workers and guests in English. One of the Human Resource Directors told the instructor that if you now try to speak to Maria in Spanish she will correct you and say, "Only English please!"

Ritz-Carlton employees celebrate their workplace education success at a recent graduation ceremony.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Workplace and Community Education program provides customized instruction to meet the needs of Palm Beach County residents who need help improving their English language or reading skills or obtaining a GED. Classes are held at businesses or community sites throughout the county. The adult students, who attend classes once or twice a week, develop literacy skills to prepare them for enhanced employment opportunities and/or future education. Trained instructors, program coordination and materials are provided.

Participants gained skills primarily in reading, writing, math, GED preparation and English.

Four students received their GED or high school diploma and **18** more are awaiting their GED test results.

The program served **212** adult participants at **11** sites.



Donors

Thank you to our donors for investing in literacy:

The following have helped make our work possible this year through gifts and grants of \$1,500 and above:

Admirals Cove Cares Charitable Foundation
 Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Inc.
 Arizona Community Foundation
 Asofsky Family Foundation
 AT&T
 Bank of America Charitable Foundation
 Bank Leumi, USA
 California Community Foundation
 Chastain Charitable Foundation
 Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County
 The Cogen Family Foundation
 Comcast Foundation
 Credit Suisse
 Bryan DeFrances
 Maggie Dickenson
 Dollar General Literacy Foundation
 Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
 George Elmore
 Cynthia A. Fisher & C. James Koch
 R.G. & R. B. Fisher Foundation, Inc.
 Florida Crystals Corporation
 Florida Literacy Coalition
 Florida Power & Light
 Friends of the Palm Beach County Library, Inc.
 Giuffrida Family Fund of The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties
 Greenberg Traurig, P.A.
 Gunster
 Haile, Shaw & Pfaffenberger, P.A.
 Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
 Jarden Consumer Solutions Community Fund
 Darlene Kostrub
 LaBovick Law Group
 The Lattner Family Foundation
 Alan & Shirley Lavine
 Levenger Foundation
 Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.
 Libra Foundation

Lynn University
 NCCI Holdings, Inc.
 Neuhoff Communications
 Northern Trust
 Bernadette O'Grady
 Palm Beach County Cultural Council
 Palm Beach State College
 Palm Beach Newspapers, Inc./The Palm Beach Post
 Dana Pickard
 PNC Foundation
 Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc.
 Publix Super Markets Charities, Inc.
 Quantum Foundation
 Rama Restaurants
 SB Idea Inc.
 Schmidt Family Foundation
 The School District of Palm Beach County
 Scripps Howard Foundation
 Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, P.A.
 Solus Alternative Asset Management LP
 State of Florida - Department of Education
 Sun-Sentinel / McCormick Foundation
 SunTrust
 TD Charitable Foundation
 TJX Foundation
 Toppel Family Foundation
 The Town of Palm Beach United Way
 United Way of Palm Beach County
 Volunteer Florida
 WPBF 25 News

We deeply appreciate the invaluable in-kind services from the following contributors:

Comcast
 ImMEDIacy Public Relations, Inc.
 Ms. Svetlana Konnikova
 Minuteman Press of Boca Raton
 The Palm Beach Post
 Reading is Fundamental
 Scholastic Book Fairs
 WPTV NewsChannel 5
 WTVX/WTCN/WWHB

Financial Statement

Statement of Financial Position Year End June 30, 2010

(as shown in the most recently filed audit)

Assets	
Cash and Investments	\$ 1,430,725
Grants Receivable	272,871
Unconditional Promises to Give	102,462
Program Service Fees Receivable	6,485
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	2,392
Property and Equipment, Net	74,645
Split Interest Agreements	239,591
Total Assets	\$ 2,129,171

Liabilities and Net Assets	
Accounts Payable	\$ 112,588
Deferred Revenue	5,500
Accruals	18,270
Total Liabilities	136,358

Net Assets	
Unrestricted	1,551,042
Temporarily Restricted	441,771
Total Net Assets	1,992,813
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,129,171

Statement of Activities (net of in-kind donations and expenses)

Revenues, Gains and Other Support	
Gifts and Grants	\$ 3,446,368
Memberships	12,675
Fundraising Revenue, Net	65,340
Interest Income	16,626
Program Service Fees	152,816
Split Interest Agreements	239,591
Total Revenue, Gains and Other Support	3,933,416

Expenses	
Programs	3,406,593
Management and General	129,906
Total Expenses	3,536,499

Change in Net Assets	396,917
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	1,595,896
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 1,992,813

Partners

Thank you to our program partners...

Achievement Centers for Children & Families
 Adopt-a-Family of the Palm Beaches
 All 'Bout Children
 American Associations of Caregiving Youth
 Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens
 Anti-Defamation League
 Area Agency on Aging
 ASPIRA of Florida
 Barnes & Noble
 Boca Raton Public Library
 Boynton Beach City Library
 Boys and Girls Club of Riviera Beach
 Boys Town South Florida
 Bridges Beacon at Highland Elementary
 Bridges Boynton
 Bridges Pahokee
 Bridges Riviera
 Brito Medical Centers
 Broward County Library Learning Services
 Broward County Public Schools
 C. L. Brumback Health Center
 Care3 Development & Learning Center
 Caridad Clinic
 Center for Family Services of Palm Beach County
 Chancellor Charter School
 Children's Care Center
 Children's Clinic
 Children's Physicians
 Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County
 City of Greenacres C.A.R.E.S.
 City of West Palm Beach
 Coleman Park Community Center
 Community Child Care Center of Delray Beach Inc. D/B/A Achievement Centers For Children & Families
 Creative Learning Experience
 Delray Beach Health Center
 Delray Beach Public Library
 Delray Pediatrics
 DePorres P.L.A.C.E.
 Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center
 Dwight D. Eisenhower Elementary After School
 Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
 Easter Seals / Igoe - Amar Child Development Center
 Ed Venture Charter School
 Faith Farm Ministries

Families First of Palm Beach County
 Family Central, Inc.
 Family Health Care Services
 Farmworker Children's Council, Inc.
 Florence de George Boys and Girls Club
 Florence Fuller Child Development Centers
 Florida Atlantic University
 Florida Department of Education
 Florida Keys Community College
 Foundcare
 Freedom Shores Elementary After School
 Frenchman's Creek
 Galaxy Elementary After School
 Gentle Medicine
 Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida
 Glades Initiative
 Gove Elementary School
 The Guatemalan-Maya Center
 Gulfstream Transitions to Life Academy
 Head Start of Palm Beach County
 Health Care District of Palm Beach County
 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Hispanic Human Resources, Inc.
 Holy Cross Catholic Preschool and Center
 Indian Pines Elementary
 Jean Y. Monice, MD.
 JFK Medical Center
 Juan Batista, MD, PA
 Junior League of Boca Raton
 Jupiter Pediatric Associates
 Kiddie Haven Preschool, Inc.
 Lake Shore Apartments
 Lake Worth Pediatrics
 Lantana Elementary After School
 Lantana / Lake Worth Health Center
 Let Us Stand Together United
 Literacy Volunteers of America - Monroe County, Inc.
 The Lord's Place, Inc.
 Loving Tender Pediatrics
 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary After School
 Miami Dade College
 Miami-Dade County Public Schools
 Milagro Center
 Minority Development & Empowerment, Inc.
 Mission Medical Center
 Monroe County School District
 My Choice
 My First Steps Preschool
 New Beginnings Pleasant City
 NOAH, Inc.

Noama Donneley Haggin Boys & Girls Club
 Opportunity Inc., Early Childhood Center
 Page Turner Adventures
 Pahokee Pals
 Pahokee Pediatric Associates
 Palm Beach County Health Department
 Palm Beach County Library System
 Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department
 Palm Beach State College
 Palm Glades Rural Health Associates
 Pathways to Prosperity
 Pearl City C.A.T.S.
 Pediatric Associates 45th Street
 Pediatric Center of Belle Glade
 Physicians Park Medical Group
 Pine Jog After School
 Pioneer Park Elementary
 Plumosa Elementary After School
 Poinciana After School
 Primetime of Palm Beach County
 Resource Depot
 Redlands Christian Migrant Association
 Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach
 Rolling Green Elementary
 Royal Palm ESE After School
 Royal Palm Pediatrics
 S.B.Idea
 The School District of Palm Beach County
 Sickle Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County and Treasure Coast, Inc.
 South Florida Workforce
 St. Mary's Hospital
 Street Beat
 Sunrise Park Elementary After School
 Take Stock in Children
 Thelma B. Pittman Jupiter Preschool
 Tiny Tikes Academy
 Village Academy
 Vita Nova
 West Jupiter Tutorial
 West Palm Beach Health Center
 West Palm Beach Public Library
 Women's Circle
 Workforce Alliance
 WXEL
 YMCA, Boynton Beach
 YWCA Child Development Centers

Our apologies to any partner that may have been inadvertently omitted.

Board of Directors & Advisory Panel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Maggie Dickenson
U.S. Bank

Vice Presidents

Robert Patterson
SunTrust

Joan Williams
Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart &
Shipley, P.A.

Secretary

Phil DiComa
Haile, Shaw & Pfaffenberger, P.A.

Treasurer

Lisa Koza
Northern Trust

Parliamentarian

Susan Rabinowitz
Bank of America

Past Presidents

Michael J. Bracci
Northern Trust
Jonathan E. Brookshire
Wells Fargo
Mark J. Burger
Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, L.L.P.
Cheryl Crowley
ImMEDIaCy Public Relations, Inc.
Laura Deck Cunningham
Charlotte Pelton & Associates, Inc.
Laurie L. Gildan
Greenberg Traurig, P.A.
Bernadette O'Grady
WPTV NewsChannel 5
Dana Pickard
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
Kenneth G. Spillias
Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.
Founding President
Gale G. Howden
Directors
Mary Barrett
School District of Palm Beach County
Edith C. Bush
Assault on Illiteracy
Kristin Calder
Bethesda Hospital Foundation
Marta Casas-Celaya
Comcast

Joseph Coscia
MultiMedia Concept Group
Bryan DeFrances
Credit Suisse
David Fleisher
Lynn University
Noelle Frederickson
Four Points Media Group
Robert Friedman
Gunster
Robert Gingras
Palm Beach State College
Paula Henderson
Florida Power & Light
Sharon Hill
Palm Beach County Library System
Lynn Kalber
The Palm Beach Post
Esther LaBovick
LaBovick Law Group
Dean Lavallee
Park Avenue BBQ & Grille
Kathy Metzger
Florida Crystals Corporation
Ken Montgomery
Barnabas Consulting Group, Inc.
Geoff Neuhoff
Neuhoff Communications, Inc.
Ike Powell III
Workforce Alliance, Inc.
Lourdes Ramos
Starbucks Coffee International
Kelly Starling
AT&T

ADVISORY PANEL

Dr. Alina Alonso
Palm Beach
County Health Department
Dr. Diane Alperin
Florida Atlantic University
Stephen Ast
Boca Raton Resort & Club
Perry Borman
Florida Department of Children and
Families
Michael Bracci
Northern Trust

Cheryl Budd
NCCI Holdings, Inc.
Laura Corry
South Florida Water Management
District
Max Davis
Member at Large
George Elmore
Member at Large
Dr. Dennis Gallon
Palm Beach State College
Dennis Grady
Chamber of Commerce
of the Palm Beaches
Louise Grant
Mary & Robert Pew
Public Education Fund
Gale Howden
Founding President, Literacy Coalition
of Palm Beach County
Glenn Jergensen
Greater Boynton Beach
Chamber of Commerce
Leanna Landsmann
Scripps Florida
Mike Malone
Greater Delray Beach
Chamber of Commerce
Rocki Rockingham
Jarden Consumer Solutions
The Honorable Edward Rodgers
Circuit Court (Retired)
Dr. Kevin Ross
Lynn University
Emily Santos
IBM
Tim Snow
The George Snow Scholarship Fund
Shelley Vana
Board of County Commissioners
Samantha Vassallo
Junior League of Boca Raton
The Honorable Susan Whelchel
City of Boca Raton



Staff

Literacy AmeriCorps Members

Christopher Arguedas
Rachel Cannon
Christine Castro
R. Sam Chaney
Andy Chiamopoulos
Sarah Clark
Alisia Cordero
Katy Ellison
Danielle Gershon
Lucy Hanson
Tiffany Hendrix
Shawna Hershberger
Cameron Hoellrich
Allison Injaian
Kristine Johnson
Sabrina Kicker
John Lenkway
Brandon Light
Casey Logan
Rachel Mathias
Eva Mays
Jamie Michelman
Jennifer Mill
Lauren Miller
Don Morie
Celia Mouyal
Alexandria Murnan
Kate Murphy
Jessica Renner
Catherine Rudder
Angelina Saloom
Jen Stone
Alexander Su
Francisco Valverde
Nina Walch
Mercedes Williams
Lauren Wilson
Matt Zich

Mary Whitehurst
Village Readers Family
Education Senior Program
Manager

Molly Williams
Reach Out and Read
Coordinator

Budding Readers Partners

Ruby Allen
Elizabeth Brown-Ryan
Orsolya Ficsor
Catherine Fiore
Susan Frost
Marta Isaacson
Catherine Lloyd
Lucy Mathis
Barbara McGrath
Deborah Newman
Vanessa Rossel
Lauren Strauss
Lois Wachtel
Linda Warlick
Judy Weiss

Workplace and Community Education Instructors

Eric Golinko
Belinda Lester
Ashleigh Semple
Malinda Starling
Sheryl Wandelt

Darlene Kostrub
Chief Executive Officer

Gloria Allin
After School Reads Manager

Ana Alvarez
Glades Family Education
Program Coordinator

Elizabeth Alvarez
Glades Family Education
Program Custodian

Nancy Birardi
After School Reads Program
Assistant

Laura Calderon
Glades Family Education
Program Coordinator

Kathy Coppola
Chief Financial Officer

Terri Crowley
Budding Readers Expansion
Program Assistant Manager

Cobi Dunn
Director of
Parent-Child Home

Iris Frohman
Workplace and Community
Education Coordinator

Alejandro Garzon
Glades Family Education
Program Manager

Elidia Guzman
Glades Family Education
Program Assistant
Coordinator

Jeanne Heavilin
Regional Training Council
Facilitator

Brad Hertzberg
AmeriCorps Coordinator

Christelle Jean-Felix
Outreach Assistant

Darline Jean Francois
Village Readers Family
Education Child
Care Assistant

Nancy Johnson
Chief Program Officer

Dianne Maddox
Outreach Coordinator

Kelly Matczak
Chief Communications
Officer

Audrey McDonough
Director of AmeriCorps

Karla Moradel
Administrative Assistant

Imelda Neary
Book Courier

Diane Pacheco
Chief Development and
Compliance Officer

Kemba Pinkston
Village Readers Family
Education Children's
Program Coordinator

Megan Richards
Village Readers Family
Education Assistant
Coordinator

Jeanne Siccone
Director of Children's
Literacy



Thanks for helping to shape
our lives for the future!



551 SE 8th Street, Suite 505
Delray Beach, FL 33483
(800) 273-1030
www.literacyabc.org