







2012 - 2013 ANNUAL REPORT









READ. LEARN. GROW.

Letter from the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dear friends,

Around here, we define success in terms of our students' successes. We cheer when Steven gets his driver's license, celebrate when Kadahra becomes a citizen, and jump for joy when Devan earns his high school diploma. We know the incredible impact these achievements have on the lives of the students and their families. A driver's license translates to reliable transportation, a better job, and a better life for the whole family. A refugee becomes a citizen, and a new life begins. A high school diploma leads to community college, and a career once dreamed, but until then, out of reach.

We're delighted when our students are willing to share their successes publically. This year, Julio's story of being promoted at work, becoming a citizen, and realizing a whole new level of confidence became a video clip. That clip was shared with thousands on the web; and, at our annual Gala, to a room full of supporters, realizing, perhaps for the first time, the life-changing impact of their gifts. Elsie made the cover of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving's Annual Report, the story of her journey to earn a high school diploma featured inside. She also made an appearance on FoxCT Morning News, inspiring others with her perseverance and faith. With hard work and support from the right people, she told the audience, you can make the impossible possible.

We're thrilled to play a role in each of our student's growth and achievements, but we're also invested in the cumulative effect, that incremental, positive shift that each of these successes triggers for our whole community. Our mission is to teach Greater Hartford adults the literacy skills they need to improve their lives. But our vision is to build a stronger, more resilient Greater Hartford by creating a community of fully literate adults.



We're working to create a community of Julios and Elsies and Kadahras and Devans, a community of adults who can provide a skilled workforce for our region's employers, informed voters and engaged citizens participating in the political process, self-sustaining leaders who can contribute as volunteers and activists in their neighborhoods, parents who can teach their children, and children who are prepared for their own success.

This past year we taught a record number of students – 852 – and expect to hit the 1,000 mark in the coming year. Eight hundred and fifty-two lives changed this year, 744 last year, and 650 the year before. This is not just us, not just our students, but our whole community, growing more literate, getting stronger and more independent, building a healthier, more vital home for all of us.

From Julio and Elsie, Kadahra and Devan, from all of the neighborhoods we serve across the Capitol region, from all of the students we've ever served or will serve, from all of us who care about literacy and this community in which we live, thank you for helping us make the impossible possible.

Carol "CJ" Hauss

Executive Director

WHAT'S COMING IN **2013 - 2014?**

Preparing Students for the Future

LVGH has hosted a computer lab staffed with dedicated volunteers for years now, but this year we're adding more structure to our computer education programming. 2013-2014 will be the year of tech training, for our students as well as our volunteers. Staff, lab volunteers, tutors and community partners will be working together throughout the next year to ensure that all of our tutors feel comfortable using technology in their classrooms, and that students are learning the computer skills they need to succeed in a high-tech world. Thanks to a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, all three of our literacy centers are now wireless. We've developed metrics to guide and evaluate tech learning, and to help us plan for more structured computer classes. We've also partnered with Comcast, who have generously donated netbooks to enable our tutors to more easily bring technology into their classrooms.

852

Total # of students in 2012-13

Continued Growth

With a record enrollment of 842 students in 2012-2013, and a projected enrollment of 1,000 students in 2014, we need more space! If you visit the Hartford Literacy Center, you may notice that we've moved a few things around in order to squeeze more out of every nook and corner. However, we still need to raise additional funding to make full-scale renovations a reality.

Annual Fundraising Gala

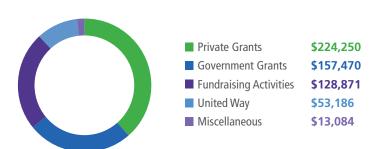
Save the date for our 5th annual Eat. Drink. Dance. Read. Learn. Grow. fundraising Gala, set for April 5, 2014 at The Farmington Club. Last year, this event raised over \$50,000 for our adult education programs, and we need your help to make it an even greater success this year. Watch for the invitation coming this winter!

40,468

Total learning hours (in classroom or computer lab) completed by students

FY 2012 - 2013 Income Sources

(unaudited)



2012 - 2013 **VOLUNTEERS**





Sofiat Abdulrazaag Elizabeth Aiken Debbie Albert Sherise Allen Richard Alleva Bethany Alvord Marvis Anthony-Marquis Maxim Arefyev Kim Barberi Marie Bastarache Joan Bateman Paul Batterson Douglas Beebe Diana Belbruno Marie Bernatchez Mariorie Berry Alex Blanchette Edlyn Blitzer Ariel Brand June Bray Rosalie Breiding Miranda Briggs Chet Brodnicki Maureen Brousseau Noah Brown Kay Burns Ginny Byrne Courtney Campbell Josset Campos Pinares Iris Capellan Deborah Carson

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"Imagine students who are upset when their spelling words for the week are too easy. Imagine students who aren't just invested in their own learning but also in the learning of other students in the class. Tutoring adults is a partnership where you get back what you put in tenfold."

Erika Frank Basic Literacy tutor and Annual Gala keynote speaker

2012 - 2013 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

182

volunteer tutors provided over 10,000 hours of classroom instruction

11

students who came to IVGH unemployed now have jobs

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of students were employed



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2012 - 2013

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120 students reported increased involvement in their child's education



students earned their high school diplomas

"When I first came to LVGH, I was scared that people would find out I couldn't read or write. Then I found that people in my classroom were just like me."

Anna Basic Literacy student



40th ANNIVERSARY GALA

The Farmington Club, April 5, 2013

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