

TUTOR TALK NEWSLETTER

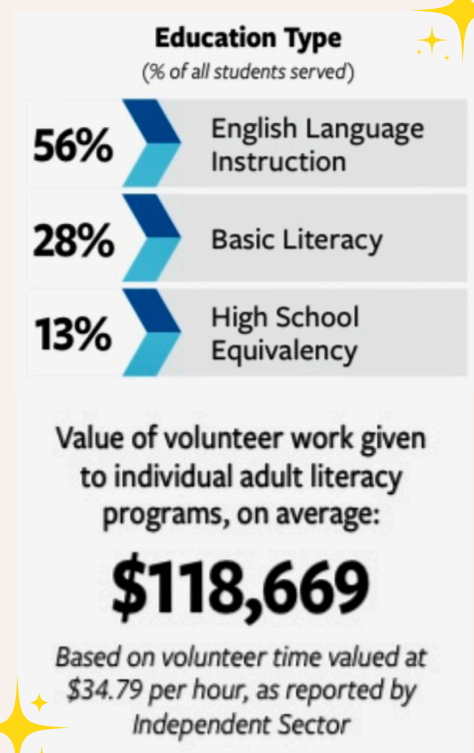
Laura Gross, Executive Director | (301) 739-4208 | office@literacyofwcmd.org

UPFRONT WITH LAURA GROSS ●●●●●●●●

ProLiteracy, the parent company of our organization, just came out with their 2024 statistical report. And yes, our data was included! It was surprising how close these national numbers compared to LCWC's numbers. Some were almost exact:

- Education type-56% English Language Instruction, 28% Basic Literacy, 13% High School Equivalency
- Volunteer Source of Referral- 91% Friend/Family; Student Referral Sources- 95% Friend/Family
- 63% of programs have a wait list.
- 11 is the average number of students on a wait list per program.
- And last, but not least, the estimated total of volunteer work given to individual adult literacy programs on average is: \$118,669!!! Wowsa!!

Please give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done! To access the full report, visit <https://tinyurl.com/proliteracy-report>



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT●●●●●●●●



"After a long career as a college professor and theatre artist, I retired two and a half years ago. A friend of mine, who has worked for years with students facing writing and speech challenges, joined a literacy center in Wisconsin. Her excitement and fulfillment from the work inspired me to try it myself, and I am so glad I did. At Laura's suggestion, I began tutoring a student and am now looking to extend my work in the future. I encourage anyone who loves teaching, enjoys language, and likes people to consider literacy teaching. It's truly important work, and the students and teachers I have met are dedicated, unique, and interesting individuals. This experience has not only been rewarding but has also enriched my life in ways I never imagined."

Stephen Judd, LCWC Student

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●●●●●●●●●● DEAR TUTOR TALK

LAST MONTH'S QUESTION: Some of my students won't ask me to repeat something or explain it another way, probably because I'm much older than them or because I'm "the teacher". I want to make them more comfortable while respecting cultural differences.

YOUR ANSWERS (THANKS):

- *Allan* - Be sure that you are enunciating and speaking moderately for your student. You know your student's level, so avoid using words that may not be understood. Ask direct questions. The comfort level will develop over time. Allow glimpses into your own personal life. Perhaps even develop a lesson using something that is of particular interest to your student. This may help in relationship building.
- *Sonya* - At the Teaching English Isn't Scary workshop in June, Sonya suggested activities where the student asks the questions. This works in a classroom and also one-on-one and is a great confidence-booster.
- *Judy* - Try to broaden the adult relationship between us. We're not just teacher and student, we share other experiences such as parenting, maintaining a home, working, and helping family. As others have suggested here, tap into your student's expertise and skills to have them be 'the teacher'.

NEW QUESTION: Help! I'm feeling burned out. My student seems happy with the way things are going, but now I'm the one who needs motivation.

Help Tutor Talk answer this question!

Send us your suggestions and we'll publish them in our next newsletter.



IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS? EMAIL JUDY CHAMBERS AT JANDSCHAMBERS@OUTLOOK.COM
OR LAURA GROSS AT OFFICE@LITERACYOFCMD.ORG

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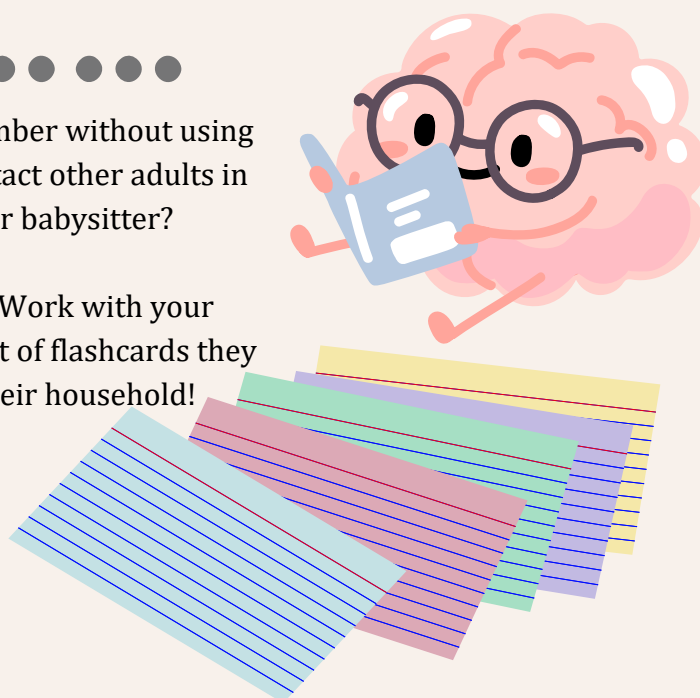
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RESOURCE CENTER ●●●●●●●●●●

Is your student able to recite their name, address, phone number without using their phone? Can they tell you where they work, how to contact other adults in the household? How about children's daycare, school, or babysitter?

Do they know how to call 911?

This type of information may be critical in an emergency. Work with your students to identify the information they need and make a set of flashcards they can use to practice. Bonus: they can teach everyone in their household!



LCWC CALENDAR - SAVE THE DATE!

Webinar: Embracing the Social and Emotional Dimensions
of Advocacy in English Language Teaching
Monday August 11th from 11-12:30.

Register here: <https://www.mdtesol.org/event-6209912>



Big THANK YOUS to all volunteers who attended the "Teaching English Isn't Scary" workshop on June 23rd! We become better teachers, tutors, and PEOPLE by learning together and sharing perspectives! We appreciate YOU!

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