



THE
Learning Source
SINCE 1964



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends of The Learning Source,

The 2016-2017 fiscal year was a year of growth, change, and innovation for The Learning Source. We have been committed to adapting our services to reflect Colorado's changing demographics and economy in an effort to best serve our adult learners and their families.

In an effort to expand our services to even more students, we opened two new locations: TLS West in Lakewood and TLS East in Denver. This expansion has not only provided our students with more choice and flexibility, it has also allowed us to plant roots in communities that will allow for relationships with other organizations and agencies committed to adult education.

In addition to forging new relationships, we have also nurtured our long-lasting relationships with government, corporate, and nonprofit organizations across the Denver metro area. These partnerships, combined with the exceptional contributions of our individual donors, volunteers, and staff, have enabled us to offer an evolving array of educational and career programming to students in Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Jefferson, and Douglas Counties.

Although we have made great strides in this fiscal year, there is still plenty of work to do. I invite you to join us in reflecting back on this year and preparing for the work that still needs to be done to support our neighbors in their journey towards educational opportunity, career success, and self-sufficiency. Thank you for your contributions over the last year. Together we are making a lasting impact on adult learners, their families, and our communities.

Sincerely,



Josh Evans
Chief Executive Officer



Caroline Asimakopoulos
President, Board of Directors FY 2017

OUR PROGRAMS

FAMILY LITERACY

A unique inter-generational approach to literacy focusing on parents as their child's first and most valuable teacher. Through educational instruction in reading, writing and speaking English, parents are empowered to assist their children in their education and pursue their own educational goals, have access to community resources, and integrate into their communities. This program is free to parents of children attending one of the nine public schools where we offer Family Literacy classes.

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (GED)

Prepares adult learners to pass tests in Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science to achieve their High School Equivalency Diploma through onsite instruction, small group work, or individualized classwork.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION (ELA)

Teaches three levels of English proficiency with focus on reading, understanding, and speaking English fluently by the completion of the third level.

THE LEARNING COLLABORATIVE (TLC)

Supports adult learners in foundational skill development in English and Math in partnership with Red Rocks Community College and assists students with college readiness skills for college entry and success.

WORKFORCE & CAREER PATHWAYS

Assists adults to achieve self-sufficiency through educational training in a specific field that enhances their opportunities for achievement and create a skilled workforce in Colorado.

YEAR IN REVIEW



After selling our Belmar location, we opened two new centers: The Learning Source West in Lakewood and The Learning Source East in Northeast Denver. Over the last year, Site Coordinators at each location have worked hard to build relationships with other agencies in these regions. These relationships will allow The Learning Source not only to reach more adults who would benefit from our services, but also to work with these agencies to best serve our clients with a variety of wrap-around services. Please reach out to our Operations Manager, Sarah Secrist, if you would like a tour of either of our new centers.

In an effort to elevate our GED program to better serve our students, we partnered with Zero Dropouts who contracted a Career Navigator at our East Office. This vital role supports GED students from enrollment to graduation by creating a customized education and career plan for each student. This partnership has allowed us to better alleviate the barriers that adult learners face when pursuing their GED, while also empowering them to craft their own plan towards self-sufficiency.

Recognizing the incredible value of community in the English Language Acquisition (ELA) process, we expanded the public library English Conversation Circle Program. These regular meetings at public libraries allow ELA learners to practice and grow their English language skills while making lasting friendships.

For our clients seeking employment, we opened a new site in collaboration with the Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center. The Workforce Center prides itself on providing the highest rate of return on public investment and offering 100% employability for all those who want to work.

OUR IMPACT

1,773
TOTAL
PARTICIPANTS



439
ESL



548
GED



232
FAMILY
LITERACY



208
WORKFORCE



270
CORRECTIONS
GED



76
THE LEARNING
COLLABORATIVE
AT RRCC



101
VOLUNTEERS



CONTRIBUTED

7,433
HOURS



DEMOGRAPHICS:

72% **28%**
FEMALE MALE

18-24	25-44	45-59	60+
21%	57%	18%	4%

RACE

46% White
32% Black/African-American
19% Asian
1% Multiracial
1% American Indian/Alaska Native
1% Pacific Islander

ETHNICITY

57% Hispanic or Latino

93% of participants live below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

FACES OF SUCCESS



“From being able to chat with the cashier at the grocery store to communicating her needs to the doctor, Loubna now feels confident in her skills and empowered to advocate for herself and her children.”

COMMUNITY

Loubna left her home country of Morocco speaking only two words in English: yes and no. She had studied British English throughout her schooling and was able to read and understand basic phrases, but felt extremely uncomfortable speaking the language. Six months after moving to Colorado, Loubna felt limited and isolated from not being able to communicate. She signed up for English classes and quickly increased her grasp of the English language, but something still felt off. It wasn't until Loubna enrolled in The Learning Source's Family Literacy Program that she realized what was missing: community. After dropping her two elementary-age sons off at their classrooms, Loubna and her preschooler walk to the school's mobile classrooms where her son receives a quality early childhood education while Loubna attends the English class next door. Loubna loves learning the grammatical structure of the language, but her favorite part of the program is practicing every-day conversations with her classmates. As the year progressed, she built friendships with her classmates and became more comfortable with speaking English. From being able to chat with the cashier at the grocery store to communicating her needs to the doctor, Loubna now feels confident in her skills and empowered to advocate for herself and her children. Her older sons are reading above grade level and her preschooler is already thriving in the classroom, all of which she credits to the Family Literacy Program.

FACES OF SUCCESS



Maria first started learning English in 1984 when she moved to the United States from El Salvador. She learned basic conversational English early on, but her deep-seated belief in the power of education inspired her to continue studying the language. She loves conversing with her classmates and appreciates the constant opportunities for growth that learning a language offers. Maria particularly enjoys studying verbs and is now proudly able to understand nearly every conversation between her adult children, which she wasn't able to do while they were growing up. In addition to giving her the opportunity to improve her English skills, Maria also values the Family Literacy Program because it presents a unique opportunity to spend time with her 3rd grade niece. In addition to inspiring her niece to excel in school, Maria is also able to inspire other students and families by volunteering in the classroom. Her goal is to always keep her brain active and is grateful for the opportunity to do this while building lasting friendships and making a difference in the community.

FRIENDSHIP

Lori was first introduced to Red Rocks Community College through the College Gateway Program when she was released from jail. She was unsure what her future would hold, but she had no idea that she would be where she is today. While enrolled in the Gateway Program, Lori learned about The Learning Source's Learning Collaborative, a partnership with Red Rocks Community College through which students can increase their math and literacy skills prior to enrolling in college. As a student in The Learning Collaborative, Lori advanced her math skills multiple grade levels. Experiencing success after success in a challenging subject ignited a fire inside Lori to not only pursue her own educational goals, but inspire others undergoing difficult circumstances to do the same. A believer in second chances, Lori has committed herself to sharing the purpose, meaning, and accountability she found in education with students who may have otherwise given up on their goals. Today, she serves as the Clerical Assistant in The Learning Collaborative where she is able to help students blossom every single day. Lori is a shining example of how overcoming educational barriers can not only provide non-traditional learners with stability and structure, but also empower them to become advocates for themselves, their families, and their communities for generations to come.



SUCCESS

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



The Learning Source is committed to providing adult learners with the most relevant and impactful services possible. With this in mind, our focus for the next year includes:

- Increasing distance learning opportunities for students who are unable to commute to one of our centers, particularly those in rural areas
- Expanding our research and evidence-based multigenerational approach to family literacy
- Partnering with local businesses to provide career opportunities for our clients
- Developing lasting partnerships with foundations and funders focused on adult education and employment to impact even more adults in the following year.

PARTNERSHIPS

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Arapahoe Douglas Works!
Arapahoe Library District
Aurora Public School District
Center for Work Education and Employment (CWEE)
Cherry Creek School District
Community College of Aurora
Denver County Jail
Denver Sheriff's Office
Jefferson County School District
Longmont YMCA
Mapleton YMCA
The American Job Center (formerly Jeffco Workforce)
Red Rocks Community College

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Caroline Slider Asimakopoulos
Joyce Benson-Fox
Jack Byers
Sandy Cirbo
Elizabeth Frawley
Lisa Hidalgo
Latife B. Kowalski
Sister Cecilia Linenbrink
Jean Marshall
Mary E. Moser
Robert Nadorff
Scott Ranby
Amy Savich
Tyler Sonnenfeld

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The Learning Source is honored to salute the following individuals, foundations, corporations and agencies for their generosity during Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017). Your commitment to support crucial programming has enhanced the lives of adult learners and their families throughout the region. We recognize that there may be many organizations deserving of your support, and we are extremely grateful you chose us.

\$10,000 - \$20,000

Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

The Phyllis M. Coors Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Cummins, Inc.

\$1,000 - \$2,499

FirstBank

Geraldine Magnie

GORIGHT

John & Sungwal Peterson

JR Engineering, LLC

Kuhn Advisors, Inc.

M7 Business Systems

Mary E. Moser

Robert Nadorff

The Denver Foundation

Zonta Club of Denver II

\$500 - \$999

Behr Hardwood LLC

Byers Group LLC

Caroline Slider Asimakopoulos

Castaways Foundation

FirstBank

Mark and Joyce Benson-Fox

Staples Foundation

TNT Floor Worx LLC

\$100 - \$499

Barbara Borow-Stephens

Brad Kaplan

Cathy Hatfield

Cecilia C. Linenbrink

Hannah Katz

Jack Byers

James Doyle

Jean M. Marshall

Josiah and Kate Masingale

Linda Hollyman

Mary M. Lai

Sally McLagan

Nancy D. Petry

John Silver

Nena Steger

Ruth Wengrovius

Susan Wagner

Up to \$100

Brenda Gilbert

Christopher Ward

Connie Burke

D.A Yale

David Montgomery

Deborah Doig

Fred Davine

Harry Chan

Ilene Kasper

James Spoja

Joan Fine

Linda McGrath

Marlene C. Adam

Meredith Ritchie

Pamesh Agrawal

Pearl Schwartz

Ronald Sandford

Sara Molden

Scott Ranby

Shelly Scales

Stephanie Morey

VOLUNTEERS & STAFF

Volunteers are the cornerstone of the programs at The Learning Source as tutors in math, reading, English, science, and social studies. In Fiscal Year 2017, 101 volunteers dedicated 7,433 hours of their time to assisting adult learners and their families achieve their personal education goals throughout all programs. The spirit of volunteerism, and the importance of reaching and helping students on an individual or small group setting, has not changed in The Learning Source's 53 years and is paramount to the success of the organization. We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to our 2017 volunteers for their commitment, dedication, and friendship.



MARK | CWEE

"It is so rewarding to be part of the students' success in the classroom and see them be proud of their hard work, especially when they're setting an example for their children."



MARITA | ELOISE MAY LIBRARY ESL

"It is heartwarming to see people learn English, build confidence, and meet others... I just get so much joy out of it."

THE LEARNING SOURCE STAFF

Ma Sonia Adame Avila	Christine Deines	Brenda Hobgood	Daun Miller-Barr	Zachary Sorenson
Ubah Ali	Debby Novotny Doig	Michael Kane	Sara Molden	Katherine Sykes
Patricia Allingham	Elizabeth Esparza	Thomas Kennedy	Patricia Orozco	Della Taylor
Mary Barnet	Joan Estep	Jason Kinkelaar	Nicolas Pares	Sandra Taylor-Day
Nancy Bartholomew	Josh Evans	Mark Krivel	Margarita Peralta	Marcia Vant Hof
Darlene Boord	Edith Fenton	Deborah Kruckman	Heidi Peterson	Georgina Villalta
Noel Chalman	Charles Fose	Bill Lamping	Crystal Reedy	Joyce Walker
Harry Chan	Carolyn Fregel	Sonja Lindeman	Sarah Schoentgen	Jade Williams
Pamela Cole	Maria Gonzalez	Andrea Martinez	Sarah Secrist	Shavon Woolfolk
Michelle Daining	Jessica Harcey	Edith McDaniel	Musette Sieminski	Loretta Wright
				Amanda Yuen

FINANCIALS

FINANCIALS FOR THE LEARNING SOURCE

SUPPORT & REVENUE

\$2,032,285

Local Grants & Contracts.....	\$923,949
Federal Grants & Contracts.....	\$661,347
In-Kind Contributions.....	\$325,705
Contributions.....	\$77,341
Program Revenue.....	\$26,196
Other.....	\$17,355
Investment Income.....	\$392

EXPENSES

\$2,039,154

Program Services.....	\$1,798,048
Administrative.....	\$163,607
Fundraising.....	\$77,499

FINANCIALS FOR THE LEARNING SOURCE FOUNDATION

TOTAL ASSETS

\$965,267

Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$1,028
Beneficial interest in The Denver Foundation.....	\$964,239

OUR MISSION



The Learning Source promotes and provides educational opportunities through collaborative partnerships for adults and families to support their future achievements.



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