

ILLITERACY HURTS OUR COMMUNITY

- Over 27,000 Washtenaw County adults are at the lowest literacy level.
- 70% of all prison inmates are functionally illiterate, or read below a fourth grade level.
- 50% of all children born to illiterate parents grow up to be illiterate adults.
- 34% of job applicants lacked the basic skills necessary to perform the jobs they sought in 2000.
- 76% of students report that literacy programs are the primary source of making improvements in their role as a citizen.

WASHTENAW LITERACY HAS A SOLUTION

For 36 years, Washtenaw Literacy has changed the lives of illiterate adults in our community through our free tutoring programs. In 2007, over 1300 learners and 500 volunteers participated in tutoring and contributed to a better community for us all.

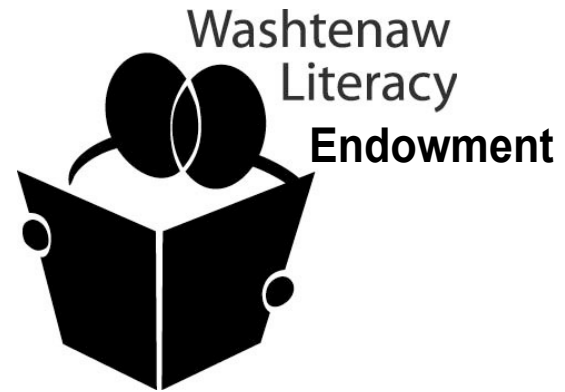
2007 LEARNER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Reported in our year-end survey:

- 100% I have achieved at least two of my goals
- 100% I am improving my literacy or English skills
- 90% I feel more confident
- 60% I feel better about family life
- 59% I am more successful at work
- 43% I am more involved in the community
- 41% I understand information from my doctor better
- 25% I read more to children

Washtenaw Literacy
Changing Lives One Word at a Time

*Multiply the effect of your contribution
to Washtenaw Literacy...
and make it last forever!*



Washtenaw Literacy is a volunteer-based organization providing free literacy instruction customized to the needs of adults throughout Washtenaw County. Volunteers provide individual and group tutoring in reading and writing skills and English as a second language so adults can improve their personal, family and community lives.

Washtenaw Literacy has an endowment managed by the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. A portion of the fund provides a continuous source of income to fund Washtenaw Literacy's operations.

An exciting aspect of contributing to our endowment is a significant state tax credit. Michigan will give a tax credit for half of any donation up to \$400 for married couples filing jointly, \$200 for individuals, and \$5000 for businesses filing single tax returns. This credit is in addition to any deductions taken on your Federal Taxes for the donation. You can take this credit using the "Community Foundations" line on the back page of your Michigan tax form.

The table below gives an example of how much your gift would actually cost you after Federal and State tax benefits:

	Single Itemizer	Married Itemizer	Corporation
AMOUNT OF GIFT	\$200	\$400	\$10,000
State Tax Credit	\$100	\$200	\$5000
Federal Tax Rate	33%	33%	35%
Federal Tax Savings*	\$66	\$132	\$1750
Total Tax Savings	\$166	\$332	\$6750
ACTUAL "COST" OF GIFT	\$34	\$68	\$3250

**Note: These examples are for illustration only. Your actual tax savings may vary depending on your income and tax bracket. Also note that your savings in Michigan taxes may reduce the amount of the State income tax deduction on your Federal return the following year. The corporate tax credit is limited to 5% of SBT liability. Your tax advisor can provide information pertinent to your own particular circumstances.*

Even if you are in a lower Federal Tax bracket than the examples above, the benefit of these tax advantages is quite significant.

So please give to the Washtenaw Literacy endowment. By using the state of Michigan tax credit in addition to Federal deductions, you can multiply your contribution and help us fight illiteracy far into the future.

To contribute, follow the steps below. Remember, you will receive the maximum tax benefit for a gift up to \$400 for a joint tax return or \$200 for single filers.

1. Write your check payable to "AAACF"
2. In the memo section of the check, write "Washtenaw Literacy Endowment Fund"
3. Bring your check to the Endowment Party on June 5 or send it to:
 Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
 301 N. Main St., Suite 300
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

To help us reach our first endowment milestone, a generous donor has offered a \$4000 challenge grant for the Endowment Party on June 5. Please join us to spread the gift of literacy throughout Washtenaw County!

