

Changing Lives One Word At A Time...



WASHTENAW
LITERACY
VOLUNTEER
TUTORS
SPEAK OUT

Billie Bahr:

When I look at the attributes of people I most respect and admire, they all positively impact the quality of life of those around them. And, they do it cheerfully and without prejudice. When I successfully teach someone to read, I can look at myself with as much respect and admiration. I feel like a success.

Lorraine Jean Hopping:

One learner, from Russia, didn't know what a library card was. We signed up her and her three young children and I watched a whole world open up.

English is critical to getting a good job-it's sometimes as simple as that. With free services and flexible hours, Washtenaw Literacy makes learning our language accessible to those who need it most.

Viola Palmer:

Tutoring has added so much more meaning to my life. After seven years of tutoring, I have seen new worlds unfold to various learners as their literacy skills develop and grow. Their expanding self-confidence, communication abilities, and positive personal, family, work and community experiences motivate and inspire me to continue tutoring.

Ann Gladwin:

I was drawn to tutoring because the lack of reading ability is such a detriment to any individual, and Washtenaw Literacy made it easy for me to share my love of reading.

As a tutor, it is so gratifying to see the light bulbs go on! "Oh, so that's what that means!"

Erin Howarth:

I am in awe of the people who come to Washtenaw Literacy. I cannot imagine learning to read at this stage in my life.

Josh Cleveland:

Buying groceries for the first time and being able to respond to the cashier's questions, being lost and able to ask for directions, being able to fill quiet, lonely moments with conversation - it's hard to exaggerate the empowerment that comes from being able to communicate with ease.

Martha Kimball:

America's form of government depends on knowledgeable voters. My belief is that ESL and the reading classes are making a huge contribution to this end. That's why I am a tutor.

Ed Kimball:

Every once in a while a student reaches the point where he or she is carrying on a conversation in English without translating every word or phrase into his or her native language and back. That's a breakthrough!

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