

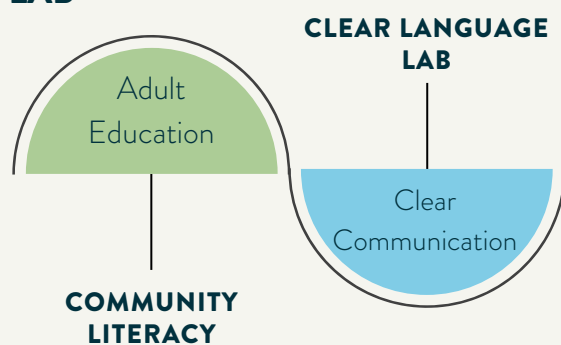
# LITERACY WORKS

## ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Literacy Works advances equity by providing robust professional development and capacity-building for the adult education sector and making clear, human-centered communication the norm.

### COMMUNITY LITERACY + CLEAR LANGUAGE LAB

Our programs work in tandem to support our mission by promoting literacy education and the use of clear language. Our deep roots in adult education inform the work of our Community Literacy and Clear Language Lab programs. We understand the power of information and seek to create a more just world by ensuring access to education and clear, useful communication across all sectors of mission-driven work. Our growing staff allows each of our programs to deepen their relationship with our members and clients while continuing to develop innovative programming.



### BY THE NUMBERS

In FY23, our Community Literacy and Clear Language Lab programs served:



**1800+ INDIVIDUALS**



**250+ ORGANIZATIONS**

### CLEAR LANGUAGE LAB QUICK STATS

The Clear Language Lab supports mission-driven organizations across a variety of sectors. In FY23, our top sectors included:



### COMMUNITY LITERACY QUICK STATS

- 50** The Community Literacy program is proud to serve 50 members across the Chicago area and throughout the state of Illinois.
- 350** We provided comprehensive training to 350 new volunteer tutors.
- 140** We offered 140 learning opportunities, including trainings and support groups.

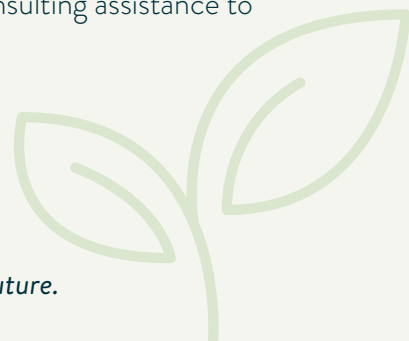
“The staff provided a fresh lens to our documents without compromising the integrity of our content. We will be able to continue to use the CLL tools and resources to better serve our community!”  
**Clear Language Lab Client**

"This training has been exactly what I needed. Thank you for making this valuable information available to tutors."  
**Volunteer Tutor, Community Literacy**

### DEEPENING OUR IMPACT

Fiscal year 2023 was a banner year for Literacy Works! We have increased our staff capacity, enhanced our programmatic offerings, and expanded our membership and client base. The core of our work remains true to our vision that *one day, literacy will be recognized as a basic human right, supporting people along their journey to read, write, and interpret the world.* We continue to be guided by our commitment to our community, providing responsive and holistic services to our members and clients. Since moving our programming online, the reach of our Community Literacy program spans the state of Illinois, while the Clear Language Lab provides training and consulting assistance to agencies across the country.

We work to cultivate sustainable and trusting relationships with every organization we serve. Rather than reaching up and out, we focus on *digging in* and *connecting further* with our community. Through support groups, customized trainings, and our increased capacity for one-on-one support, we are working to create lasting change toward a *more equitable future.*



### ADVANCING COMMUNITY ACTION

#### ADULT ED WAVE

Following our [reports on the high turnover in the Adult Education field](#), our Community Literacy team founded Adult Ed WAVE to further investigate the working conditions of adult educators in Illinois. WAVE, or Workers Amplifying Voices for Equity, is a group of teachers working together to advocate for former and current colleagues and find solutions to strengthen the field while supporting teachers.

#### COMMUNITY VOICES PROJECT

Our Clear Language Lab developed the [Community Voices Project](#) from the understanding that community members need to be an integral part of our work to make systems more accessible. These meetings provide a space where members can share honest and insightful feedback on plain language and accessibility. This feedback guides our work while honoring the knowledge of our community.