



For Immediate Release

May 21, 2014

Literacy Volunteers Celebrate the Stars of Literacy

Eau Claire, WI – Literacy Volunteers Chippewa Valley (LVCV) held its annual Celebration of the Stars on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at Lake Street United Methodist Church. Over 125 tutors, students, and supporters attended this important event recognizing over 50 students for their important literacy accomplishments at Family Literacy and Pair Tutoring/Open Learning.



A highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of the *Eric Wahl Making a Difference Award*. This year's recipient was Jim Fey, vice president of operations for Student Transit -- Eau Claire. Over the past eight years, Student Transit-Eau Claire has provided transportation for some LVCV families to attend Family Literacy classes. The "yellow bus" has made it possible for more than 30 families to learn English, families who would not otherwise have been able to participate in the program. The yellow bus also transports pre-school children who come to Family Literacy with their parents, allowing these Birth-3 year olds to attend the YMCA early education program. In the photo above are Paul Kulig (President of the LVCV Board of Directors), Phil Fey, Barb Fey, Jim Fey, and Stephanie Fey.

Special Tutor Awards were presented to volunteers who reached milestones in time served working with students:

Five Years

Amy Alpine
John Grump
Bonnie Hennig-Piper
Dan Kronenberg
Jim McConnell
John Murphy
Juli Murphy
Kris Phillips
Mary Ryan-Miller
Marge Steinecke

10 Years

Mary Gresser-Burns

15 Years

Margaret Glose
Sue Gordon

20 Years

Barbara Rolland

The recently published 2014 Celebrate Writing book was also released at Celebration of the Stars. This year's theme was entitled *Learning Journeys to Happiness*, and contained stories written by LVCV Adult Learners. Several students read their student writings to those in attendance.

The Celebration of the Stars was made possible in part to food sponsors Mega Foods and Sam's Club. The sub sandwiches were made by literacy partner Community Development Center (CDC) employees.

About Literacy Volunteers Chippewa Valley

Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley (LVCV) is a community-based literacy program that trains and supports volunteers to educate adults and their families, helping them acquire the skills necessary to achieve economic self-sufficiency and function effectively in their roles as citizens, workers, and family members. Founded in 1986, LVCV's mission to help one individual, one family, and one community at a time and is realized through our core programs: Pair or small group tutoring; Family Literacy; Workplace Education; Corrections; and Citizenship. All programs utilize tutoring provided by trained and supported volunteer tutors. With offices in Chippewa, Dunn and Eau Claire counties, LVCV is classified as a tax exempt, 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

For more information, please visit <http://www.lvcv.org> or contact:

Mary Jo VanGompel, Executive Director
Literacy Volunteers -- Chippewa Valley
Phone 715-834-0222



LVCV Tutors - Five Year Awards

Dan Kronenberg, Amy Alpine, John Grump, Bonnie Hennig-Piper, Mary Ryan-Miller, Jim McConnell, John Murphy and Juli Murphy

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