

For Immediate Release

May 22, 2014

Literacy Volunteers Earns Tutor Training Grant

Eau Claire, WI – Literacy Volunteers Chippewa Valley (LVCV) was recently awarded an Eau Claire Community Foundation Grant in the amount of \$7,317 for Top Tutor Training.

The Top Tutor Training funds will provide workshops and additional training opportunities for Literacy Volunteer tutors and staff. Specifically LVCV will present one 2-day Learning to Achieve training workshop and a series of four half-day Student Achievement in Reading (STAR) training. STAR is a comprehensive toolkit and training package built upon evidence-based reading instructional strategies. STAR helps adult educators improve reading outcomes among intermediate-level (4-8th grade) learners. STAR features assessments on each component of reading, and provides explicit instruction that maximizes learners' active engagement. Learning to Achieve is based on the most recent Learning Disabilities (LD) research. The purpose is to identify tools and techniques that effectively serve adults with LD. This training also addresses core concepts like self-advocacy and self-determination.

Last year, LVCV helped 542 students through core literacy programs in One-to-One Tutoring, Workplace Education, Corrections, GED, Citizenship and Family Literacy. In 2013, 216 volunteers logged 9,542 hours of tutoring. It is estimated that there are nearly 20,000 adults in our community living with low literacy, so many more tutors are needed. One of the goals of LVCV is to focus on recruitment and retention of volunteers.

LVCV will also receive a \$250 grant from Dale and Cathy Southard on behalf of the Robert R. Southard Memorial Fund toward the purchase of a color printer with scanning and faxing capabilities. The addition of a color printer will allow LVCV to reach out to tutors, students and the community at large to print their stories of successes and challenges, and to recruit new students through referrals. The goal is to reduce expenses with outside printing vendors by printing marketing materials on demand.

MaryJo VanGompel, Executive Director of Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley, will be a guest speaker at the Eau Claire Community Foundation Annual Meeting on June 5, 2014 at the Holiday Inn in Eau Claire.

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:

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