

**Literacy Volunteers of Illinois**  
**VOCAL AmeriCorps**  
(Volunteer Outreach for Community Action in Literacy)  
**2011/2012**  
**Host Sites**

**Albany Park Community Center**

5121 N. Kimball Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60625

The Albany Park Community Center (APCC) is a multi-service center offering a range of adult education and literacy programs, including one-to-one tutoring in ESL, basic reading and math. The APCC also offers various programs in family literacy, citizen preparation and computer literacy, and serves as a neighborhood Community Technology Center.

Contact: Karen Parrillo, Adult Literacy / Citizenship Coordinator 773/433-3737  
773/304-1970 (fax)

**Anixter Center (The)**

2032 N. Clybourn  
Chicago, IL 60614

The mission of Anixter Center is to enhance the ability of individuals living with or at risk of disabilities to live, learn, work, and play in the community. Each year, at dozens of locations across greater Chicago, the Center provides an array of services to more than 5,000 children and adults, including education, employment, life skills, communication, recreation, health care, counseling, and support. Most of the people who receive services have a significant disability – physical, intellectual, developmental, sensory, psychiatric, and many have more than one.

Contact: Vicki Lopez, Adult Literacy Coordinator 773/929-8200 ext. 265  
773/929-3244 (fax)

**Center for Companies that Care**

500 N. Dearborn  
Chicago, IL 60654

The Center for Companies that Care is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the well-being of employees and communities by educating and inspiring employers to practice employer engagement and integrate the 10 Characteristics of Companies that Care into their daily business practices. CFCC's Community of Caring is making a difference in communities and workplaces nationwide through community-building initiatives and education about how to be a company that cares.

Contact: Kate Stephenson, Program Director 312/661-1010 847/849-2465 (fax)

**Centro Romero**

6216 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60660

Centro Romero, located on the northeast side of Chicago in the Edgewater neighborhood, is a non-profit organization providing options and opportunities for low-income Latino immigrants. Services offered include ESL and Spanish Literacy, Immigration Services, and various programs

for youth and women. Through education, Centro Romero emphasizes the development of the whole family unit, the creation of community leadership and self-reliance.

Contact: Jeff Tinley, Program Director 773/508-5300 ext.15 773/508-5399 (fax)

### **Christopher House (two locations)**

2507 N. Greenview – Main Office  
Chicago, IL 60614

3255 W. Altgeld – Adult Literacy Program  
Chicago, IL 60647

Christopher House is a catalyst for strengthening and empowering low-income children and their families. The integrated web of support services provided helps build thriving families by equipping them with the tools they need to become self-sufficient and progress in their social, emotional, educational, and economic development. VOCAL members serve two programs – the adult literacy program, which provides individual and small group tutoring in ESL, ABE, and GED on-site in the day and evening hours, and a Social Services program that engages school age parents in a variety of assessments for the purposes of creating personal and family-oriented goals.

Contact: Daisy Perez, Adult Literacy Manager 773/235-4073

Gloria Kuechenberg, Director of Family Support Services 773/472-1083  
773/472-7292 (fax)

### **District #214 Community Education**

Read to Learn for a Brighter Future

2121 S. Goebbert Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60005-4297

Part of Township High School District 214, the Community Education program, which houses the Read to Learn program, provides services to the adults using public school facilities as bases of operation. A wide array of services are offered adult learners that include literacy screening assessment, goal-setting, interest inventories, individualized lesson plans, weekly one-on-one tutoring sessions, and weekly conversation classes, among others.

Contact: Rhonda J. Serafin, Adult Literacy Director 847/718-7719 847/718-7927 (fax)

### **Howard Area Community Center**

7647 N. Paulina

Chicago, IL 60626

The Howard Area Community Center (HACC) is a multi-service, community-based agency located on the far north side of Chicago in the Rogers Park neighborhood. HACC's mission is to assist low-income individuals and families in Rogers Park to stabilize their lives and develop the social skills necessary to become effective community members. Programs offered by the HAAC include: education and employment, intensive home visiting for parents with young children, center-based early childhood education, social services, youth development, and an alternative high school.

Contact: Shannon Callahan, Director of Education and Employment 773/262-6622

773/262-6645 (fax)

Melanie Sampson, Adult Education Coordinator

**Instituto del Progreso Latino (IDPL)**

English Literacy & Basic Skills for Latino Immigrants  
2570 S. Blue Island  
Chicago, IL 60608

IDPL is an educational organization whose mission is to contribute to the fullest development of Latino immigrants and their families through education, training and employment. With offices in three different communities on the southwest side of Chicago, IDPL offers a continuum of adult education services from learning how to read in Spanish up to the GED. ABE and pre-GED classes are also offered, as is English literacy for students with less than a 6<sup>th</sup> grade education in their first language. Also offered are computer literacy programs and internet access.

Contact: Stephen R. Alderson, Adult Education Director 773/890-0055 773/890-1537 (fax)

**Literacy Chicago**

17 N. State Street, Suite 1010  
Chicago, IL 60602

Literacy Chicago is a nonprofit organization that empowers individuals to achieve greater self sufficiency through language and literacy instruction. Partnerships are the cornerstone of their organizational structure, which allows them to reach a wide range of students at their downtown Chicago office, as well as through classes that are held at off-site locations throughout the Chicago area. Literacy Chicago focuses on being an integral part of the path their adult literacy students are on to transform their lives through education.

Contact: Jessica Keller, Executive Director 312/870-1100 312/870-4488 (fax)

**Literacy Volunteers of Illinois (LVI)**

30 East Adams Street, Suite 1130  
Chicago, IL 60603

LVI is a statewide organization that is committed to developing and supporting volunteer literacy programs that help families, adults and out-of-school teens increase their literacy skills. Programs sponsored include VOCAL AmeriCorps, of which all of the agencies described herewith are a part, as well as the Jump Start program, described below. LVI also offers training to staff, tutors, and adult learners through two annual conferences and conducts special events and advocacy efforts to raise awareness about the problems of and solutions to low literacy in adults.

Contact: Dorothy M. Miaso, Executive Director 312/857-1582 312/867-1586 (fax)

**Jump Start at the Illinois Youth Centers**

A program of LVI that recruits retirees, especially retired teachers, to serve as tutors and mentors for youth incarcerated in the Illinois Youth Centers. The program was begun in 1995 through funding from the Retirement Research Foundation, and currently receives public and private support.

**IYC-Harrisburg**

1201 W. Poplar  
Harrisburg, IL 62946  
Contact: Joni Gravatt 618/252-8681 ext. 369

**IYC-Kewanee**

2021 Kentville Road  
Kewanee, IL 61433

Contact: Debra Sundberg 309/852-4601 ext. 3313

**IYC-St. Charles**

3825 Campton Hills Rd.  
St. Charles, IL 60175

Contact: Dorothy Miaso 312/857-1582 312/857-1586 (fax)

**Mercy Housing Lakefront**

1512 S. Wabash  
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Through a variety of services offered at Mercy Housing, residents have opportunities to gain the skills they need to change their lives and improve their communities. Resident services include after-school and summer programs for youth, GED and English courses, financial education programs, health classes, health care services for seniors and more.

Contact: Racquel Fullman, Literacy Specialist 312/913-1605 x 112 312/341-9169 (fax)

**Pui Tak Center**

2216 S. Wentworth  
Chicago, IL 60616

Established in 1994 by the Chinese Christian Union Church to be a Christian witness to Chinese in Chicago, the Pui Tak Center serves over 2,500 individuals each year through a variety of educational, family and community services that include a computer learning center, a music program, and a preschool through 6th grade school. The Adult ESL program offers six levels of English and citizenship preparation classes. Nearly 1,200 adults attend the classes each year. Classes are offered Monday through Thursday in the mornings (8:15-10 a.m.) and evenings (5:30-7:15 p.m.).

Contact: Bill Wong, Adult Tutoring Coordinator 312/328-1188 312/328-7452 (fax)

**Tolton Center of De La Salle Institute**

Henry Legler Library  
115 S. Pulaski Ave. – 2nd Floor  
Chicago, IL 60624

The Tolton Center, which is part of De La Salle Institute, is an [adult education](#) program that provides employability skills, family literacy and child services in low-income communities in the Chicagoland area. Through partnerships with libraries, Head Start Centers, and public and private schools, the Tolton Center offers to adult learners Basic Reading, ESL and Math Tutoring, ABE and GED Classes, as well as Workplace and Family Literacy.

Contact: Susan Perez, Director of Adult Education, 773/265-7248 773/265-7259 (fax)

**World Relief**

3507 W. Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60625

World Relief-Chicago's mission is to engage communities to foster dignity and wholeness for immigrants and refugees in transition. English language and literacy development to obtain employment and integrate more fully into the Chicago community is a key avenue that World Relief uses to accomplish its mission. Education services include intensive English Language Training part-time ESL programming, family literacy and in-home tutoring. Also offers weekly employment preparation and cultural adjustment training.

Contact: Heidi Dessecker, Interim Director, Resettlement Services

Mike Moline, Director of Education Services    773/583-9191    773/583-9410 (fax)