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Wisconsin Literacy, Inc. – Who we serve:

With our 70 local member literacy agencies, [Wisconsin Literacy](#) works with adult students who are parents and essential workers, many who are seeking new jobs that require very different skill sets, including digital proficiency.

They represent families with low to moderate income, communities of color and justice-involved adults preparing to re-enter their communities. They are motivated, determined, and persistent. Against many odds, they strive to gain new skills, improve their lives, and provide for their families.

Their children's success in school is inextricably linked to their educational status and their commitment to the value of education in their lives. 40% of children with a mother who has not graduated high school will not graduate themselves on time, compared to only 2% of children from mothers with a bachelor's degree.

Children of parents with low literacy have a 72% chance of being in the lowest reading level themselves.

Our [statewide network](#) of 70 community-based literacy agencies is **providing language acquisition, high school completion, job readiness, U.S. citizenship preparation, health literacy, financial know-how, and computer proficiency, all at little or no cost to their students.**

We are a feeder system into our state's technical colleges preparing a pipeline of prepared adults with foundational literacy and math skills who otherwise would not know about broader educational or career pathways. We are a **pivotal ON-RAMP to the WIOA highway (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) of technical colleges and workforce partners, a road that our students do not access without the guidance of community-based literacy staff and our volunteer network.**

The ROI of the work of community-based literacy is measured by National Reporting System standards and GED completions for most of our members doing this critical work in their communities, the same standards used by our technical college system, yet in several measures producing higher literacy achievement gains with a more challenging population and with far more limited resources.

Through the generosity of over 2,500 professionally trained community volunteer tutors, over 100 paid instructors, and the passion of program leadership, **Wisconsin Literacy's coalition is an extremely affordable and unique delivery model for adult education, with low overhead and half the cost per student that is spent in other delivery models. It changes lives and puts thousands of Wisconsinites on a pathway to educational and career success.**

Literacy is a lifelong tool that impacts every corner of our state's economy, and which carries forward for generations.