

*R.E.A.D.'s mission is to provide Northwest Ottawa County adults with an opportunity to improve and transform their lives by strengthening their reading and language skills.*

Strong adult literacy and education programs bring a powerful return on investment by improving the lives of the adult learners, the lives of their families, and the economic development in the Tri-Cities area.

**40** This year R.E.A.D was able to support 40 student/tutor pairs work towards and obtain their literacy goals.

Goals include:

- Improve basic literacy skills
- Improve English language skills
- Improve ability to read to children/grandchildren

- Gain financial independence
- Obtain a driver's license
- Obtain U. S. Citizenship
- Achieve education beyond High School

In addition to free one-on-one tutoring, we offered a free monthly English Conversation Workshop for our English as a Second Language (ESL) students. Through this workshop, our ESL students practice listening and speaking in English in an informal setting.

**“R.E.A.D. is a program that transforms lives.”**

-HOLLY JOHNSON  
PRESIDENT OF GRAND HAVEN AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

### Tulasi & Lorelle

Tulasi is now a United States citizen thanks to hard work and help from her tutor, Lorelle. Tulasi's literacy goals continue to evolve with each obstacle she overcomes. Next on the list: getting her driver's license and starting a job when her son starts school. Lorelle is going to empower her every step of the way.



### Lydia & Diane

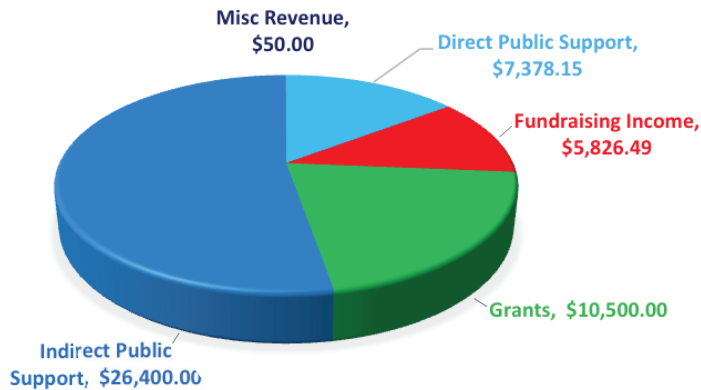
Lydia and Diane were matched in 2016 to work on achieving Lydia's goal of improving her literacy. Her goals have now expanded. Lydia says, "When I thought about continuing my education, I thought I would only be able to study a couple of potential job careers due to my reading challenges. I did not have confidence in my abilities. Working with Diane has helped me realize, now, anything is possible."



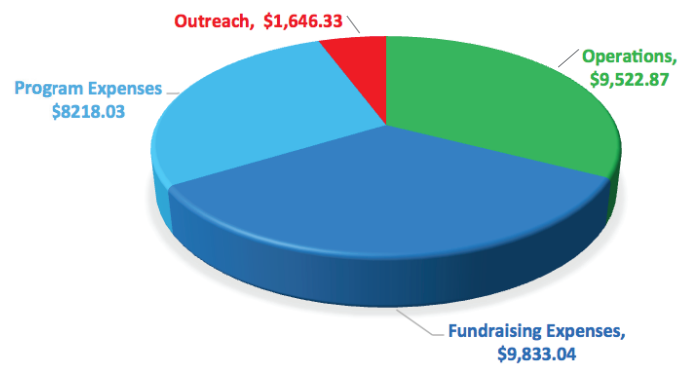
**“Every resettled person says that language is his or her biggest challenge in the resettlement process. R.E.A.D. tutors have been crucial in helping their students with those challenges.”**

-JANIS BURKHARDT  
NW OTTAWA LIAISON FOR THE REFUGEE COMMUNITY

# 2016 Income



# 2016 Expenses



*Thank you to all our volunteers, donors and staff. Through their dedication of adult literacy we can support our student/tutor pairs and continue to grow our program. We would also like to thank our community partners; the Loutit and Spring Lake District Libraries and Zeeland/Holland Adult Education for providing space and shared resources that make our mission a reality. You can help us keep our free adult literacy services available to our community by volunteering as a tutor or making a donation!*

PAUL MARTIN  
PRESIDENT

## Service Groups

100 or More Women Who Care  
Fraternal Order of Eagles 925  
Grand Haven Area Community Foundation  
Marion A. & Ruth K. Sherwood Family Fund  
Zenko Family Field of Interest Fund  
Rotary Club of Grand Haven  
Walk the Beat  
Women's Life Chapter 868

## Individuals

Donald and Cynthia Anderson	Gerald and Linda Gibbs
David Baas	John Harbeck
John and Nancy Carlyle	Bari Johnson
John and Joanne Clickner	Dorothy Klintworth
Tom and Michelle Creswell	James and Barrie Loeks
David Dwyer	Doris Lowe
Steve and Mary Jane Evink	Paul and Valerie Martin
Fischer Gleason Gift Fund	Paula McDowell
Stan and Nancy Fortuna	Sherry Mitchell and Rich Vissar

## In Kind Contributions

The Bookman  
Michigan Rag Co.  
Seven Steps Up

## Memorial Gifts

Jack A. Braak

## Tribute Gifts

Deb Miller

## Businesses

Active Manufacturing Corp.  
D. Baker & Son Lumber Co.  
Culver's of Grand Haven  
Old Boy's Brewhouse Inc.

## Endowment

Jennifer and Neil Jacobs