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**Our Mission:** The Literacy Connection is dedicated to helping adults in the northwest suburbs reach their literacy goals through one-on-one volunteer tutoring and small group instruction.

December 2014

Dear Friend of Literacy,

Gaby dreamed of becoming a nurse. Although her life moved naturally around Spanish-speaking people, she knew deep down the language barrier would crush that dream and that the longer she waited to learn English, the harder it would be for her to succeed. It was going to be a long road, but she was confident that she would accomplish her goal. A family member introduced her to the Literacy Connection. She became a student in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program seven years ago. Her tutors took their time with her and taught her at a comfortable level how to put her words into writing, to use proper English, and to master punctuation. Her current tutor has been with her for the past six years and has provided nearly 400 hours of instruction.



According to Gaby, "It's not enough to be part of the problem; you must be part of the solution." By advancing her education, her communication with others has improved tremendously and she is more confident. In the immediate future, she would like to take entry level exams for college courses. According to Gaby, the effects of a cultural transition could be the beginning of a better life; one that allows her to leave a legacy for her children.

**You're making a difference!**

Our services of basic literacy, ESL, family literacy, citizenship, math, and special services for students with learning disabilities are supported by your generosity.



Our learners' top goals achieved in Fiscal 2014 include: getting a job or better job, improving employability skills, improving scores on standardized tests, increasing involvement in their children's educational activities and attaining consumer skills. The adults in our program in Fiscal 2014 were the parents of 499 dependent children.

Per [www.proliteracy.org](http://www.proliteracy.org), research shows that the way to improve education outcomes for children is by improving their parents' skills. **Won't you help parents improve their literacy skills and create better futures for their children?**

Thank you for your support. **Our Board of Directors, Staff and Office Volunteers wish you and your family safe, healthy and happy holidays!**

Sincerely,

Christine Awe  
Board President  
The Literacy Connection

**Visit our website to see our Annual Report**  
[www.elginliteracy.org](http://www.elginliteracy.org)



**2014 Annual Appeal**

Check with your employer for a Matching Gift Program to increase your contribution.

Yes, you can count on me for help and support. ☐ Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of payable to The Literacy Connection

☐ \$25 ☐ \$ 50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$ 250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month

☐ I prefer to pay online at [www.elginliteracy.org](http://www.elginliteracy.org) using a credit card (monthly recurring donation option is available online)

**Donor Privacy Statement:** The Literacy Connection does not share or sell its mailing lists. If you would like your donation to remain anonymous, please indicate by checking this line. ☐

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I would like to receive a quarterly newsletter and other updates via e mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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