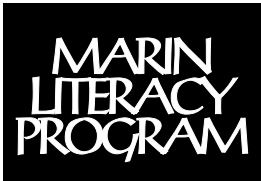




**Marin Literacy Program** provides Marin County adults with free student-centered instruction in reading, writing and speaking to help them reach their full potential at work, at home and in the community.



Providing Adult Literacy Services  
Since 1985

A 501(c)(3) in partnership with  
San Rafael Public Library and  
Marin County Free Library

**San Rafael Library/Literacy**

1100 E Street  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
415 485-3318

**South Novato Library/Literacy**

6 Hamilton Landing, Ste. 140A  
Novato, CA 94949  
415 506-3167

**West Marin Literacy Services**

The Creamery Bldg., Ste. 3B  
P.O. Box 363  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956  
415 663-1849

**FLAGship Services**

415 497-1666

[www.marinliteracy.org](http://www.marinliteracy.org)

Photography: Paul Kagawa. Additional photos by  
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08



Report to the COMMUNITY



Providing Adult Literacy Services  
Since 1985

**T**wo and a half years ago, I was toying with the prospect of teaching reading in libraries and reading programs in Laos. It was a romantic and altruistic notion, but one not firmly rooted in reality. Or at least not my reality. Investigating opportunities closer to home, I discovered the Marin Literacy Program. Their need and my desire melded perfectly.

## FINDING COMMUNITY

Within weeks of Orientation and tutor training, I was paired with my learner, a remarkable woman by the name of Gloria. I loved her from the start. Hard working, ambitious and enthusiastic, she proved to be an outstanding student and avid learner. A single mother of three, she attended evening classes at College of Marin, worked two jobs, and met with me for two hours a week to improve her reading and to hone her skills as a writer.

At first our journey meandered. It was filled with carefully constructed lesson plans and a myriad of expectations. We covered phonics, grammar, intermediate reading and “free writing.” As we found our footing, together we set goals and she achieved them; together we identified necessary skills, and she strengthened them. In the process, the writer’s voice buried within her began to emerge. Everything that she had endured – the struggles and challenges, the nearly insurmountable obstacles she had overcome – were finding expression through her words. Those words found their way into articles she authored for two newsletters, a Writer to Writer contest entry, and finally, an essay for Marin Literacy’s annual publication of student writings, *Different Worlds, Many Voices 2007*. I beamed with pride as Gloria again read from her work to the large audience assembled at the Student Authors Event at Book Passage this year.



My association with Marin Literacy was also taking hold. I seized every opportunity presented to me: perusing the literacy resource library with regularity, attending Tutor Roundtables, volunteering for fundraising events such as the Marin Human Race and the Love of Literacy Sing-Along at the Rafael Film Center, and, most recently, joining the Marin Literacy Training Team.

Although Gloria and I no longer work together as student and tutor, I know she continues to reap the benefits of what she gleaned from our work. I saw it in her relationships with her children, in the admiration of co-workers, in the community that expanded as her breadth of knowledge expanded, in her face and demeanor when she and I were recently reunited.

Each of us finds our way to Marin Literacy for different reasons. I would like to think that our purpose is singular: to help ease the burden of illiteracy by empowering those who seek education as a means to a better life for themselves, their families and their communities.

– Tracey Rose, Tutor and Trainer

**Marin Literacy Program** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is also sponsored by San Rafael Public and Marin County Free Libraries. Our free literacy services, delivered in a broad range of settings including book clubs and citizenship classes, from the confines of jail to the open hills of West Marin, benefit individuals throughout the County.

**FLAGship Services'** colorful bus travels to isolated and underserved areas to bring kindergarten readiness and health awareness activities to children under five, their parents and caregivers.



Matching adult students who want to improve their reading and writing with trained volunteer tutors, and providing support to them, are key components of **Adult Literacy Services**.



Young children benefit immensely when their parents and caregivers improve their own skills through **Family Literacy Services** and help them develop a lifelong love of reading and writing.

## A Literacy Community IN ACTION

**West Marin Literacy Services** meets the needs of its rural workers and Latino residents through English and citizenship classes, community projects, and bilingual family storytimes at the library.



Jail and prison inmates wanting to improve their reading, writing and parenting skills are offered instruction, library access and Gift Books for their children through **Inmate Literacy Services**.

**In 2007-08, Marin Literacy Program** helped 1,548 adult students to develop and improve their reading and writing skills, and 1,232 children benefited from Family Literacy and FLAGship Services. Additionally, with the distribution of 5,284 free books, Marin Literacy expanded home libraries and continues to stimulate a lifelong love of learning and discovery.



*Students talk with tutors and supporters at the One World, Many Voices 2008 event at Book Passage.*

## M a k e a D I F F E R E N C E

- Help adult students and their families make reading a part of their daily lives.
- Engage new readers to explore broader horizons.
- Inspire new writers to develop their voices and impact their communities.

### Join Our Community

- Volunteer as a literacy tutor or FLAGship aide.
- Give time in our office or join a board committee.
- Offer financial or inkind support.

Visit us on the Web to find out more: [www.marinliteracy.org](http://www.marinliteracy.org)

### Income

California State Library	168,579.00
City & County Libraries	128,292.00
First 5 Marin/Sonoma	105,585.00
County of Marin	86,313.00
Local Foundations	57,325.00
Corporate & Private Donations	24,409.00
Board Fundraising	16,366.00
Carry-over	9,901.00
Interest/Fees	3,829.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$600,599.00</b>

### COMMUNITY Powered

Volunteers are the engine that drives Marin Literacy Program. The County of Marin values their tutoring at the rate of \$29.68 per hour – so the 253 tutors who provided 17,844 hours in 2007-2008 contributed **\$529,610 of instructional services!**

### Expenses

Adult Literacy Services	45,086.00
Family Literacy Services	49,924.00
FLAGship Services	105,585.00
Inmate Literacy Services	102,761.00
West Marin Literacy Services	98,298.00
Administration	94,906.00
Outreach & Development	74,379.00
Volunteer Training	26,689.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$597,628.00</b>

Marin Literacy Program encompasses funding and operations through three entities, with the total combined budget shown above. Marin Literacy Program 501(c)(3) activities can be found on [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org). The other portions of the budget are managed by the City of San Rafael and the County of Marin.

# Our Community SUPPORTERS

## Marin Literacy Advisory Board

Lynn Colombo, *President*  
Michael Kadel, *Treasurer*  
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Paul Cummins  
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Rex Wolf  
*Teresa Wootton, In Memoriam*  
Nancy Cantrell  
Mary Dowling  
Nancy Hansberry  
Maria Howard  
Patricia Pappas  
Melissa Rinck  
Linda Segars  
Catherine Wright  
Dina Zvenko

## Extension of IRA Gift Law Benefits Donors and Charities

On October 3, 2008, H.R. 1424 extended through December 31, 2009 the ability of individuals aged 70 and older to transfer up to \$100,000 per year directly from an IRA to public nonprofit organizations. In order to make the contribution directly to an eligible charitable organization, individuals, working with their financial advisors, must instruct their IRA trustee in writing. In the past, retirement account distributions to charities were subject to federal income tax on the entire amount transferred. **Please consider taking advantage of the IRA gift law to benefit both you and Marin Literacy Program.**