

Mission: To promote literacy and lifelong learning for all residents through community networking.

Vision: Schenectady County will have a comprehensive, well-coordinated continuum of literacy services that is easily accessible to the community.



How Can You Help?

- Join as a partner organization!
- Volunteer for a specific program
- Donate
- Sponsor a LTFSC program

For more information, please contact Jacqueline Orr, Literacy Task Force of Schenectady County Coordinator, at:

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LTFSC Partners

“A Different Way In” Reading Center
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region
Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady
Capital District Child Care Council
Capital District YMCA
Capital Region BOCES, Early Childhood Direction Center
Catholic Charities of Schenectady County
Center for Disability Services, CloverPatch Early Childhood Services
Church of God
C.O.C.O.A. House
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schenectady County
Friendship House
Hispanic Outreach Services
Kenney Community Center, Union College
Literacy Volunteers—Mohawk/Hudson, Inc.
Parsons Early Head Start
Parsons Child Program and Family Resource Center
Schenectady City School District
Schenectady County Public Library
Schenectady County Public Health Services
Healthy Schenectady Families
Children with Special Needs Program
Schenectady Day Nursery
United Way of the Greater Capital Region
Washington Irving Educational Center
Wildwood Programs
WMHT Educational Telecommunications

For more information, contact:

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**Literacy Task Force
of Schenectady County**

***Partners in
Building a
Literate
Community***



Who We Are

The Literacy Task Force of Schenectady County (LTFSC) was formed in 2003 to bring service providers together to improve and enhance the coordination of literacy services in the community. LTFSC, through the efforts of its partners, examines the provision of literacy services in the County, identifies specific needs and priorities, and reviews how these services are provided to Schenectady residents.

What We Do

- **Identify resources** already available in the community
- **Recognize needs and overlaps** in literacy services
- **Create common goals and outcome measures** for literacy programs
- **Enhance communication** among literacy service providers
- **Pinpoint ways for partners to collaborate** and build on their strengths
- **Create linkages** with other non-profit and community organizations
- **Develop county-wide strategies** for improved literacy



Did You Know?

- One out of five adults cannot manage simple reading and speaking tasks.
- Reading books to children is a more effective way to build vocabulary than speech heard on TV or videos.
- Growth in vocabulary in children under two years of age is clearly linked to the extent that adults talk with them.



Working to Help the Community

Working together, the Literacy Task Force of Schenectady County (LTFSC) strives to improve literacy services for the good of all county residents. By building on the strengths of its partners through collaboration, LTFSC is charged with improving literacy for children, adults, and families.

What is Literacy?

The Literacy Task Force believes literacy encompasses all forms of communication. We define literacy as the ability to read, write and understand print and symbols; to compute and solve problems; and to use technology in order to fully participate in our society. Literacy empowers individuals to acquire knowledge and to achieve personal, family, work and community goals.

LTFSC Programs

- ▶ **Library Links to Literacy** workshops offer an opportunity for participants to learn about resources available at the library as well as ways to introduce literacy activities into daily routines.
- ▶ **FLAIR (Family Literacy — Accessing Information and Resources)** offers programs for parents that focus on literacy and resource information that helps parents meet their individual goals.
- ▶ **LEAPE (Literacy Education And Parent Engagement)**, a coalition of partners seeking to increase literacy and parent engagement skills in Schenectady County. The Literacy Task Force of Schenectady County is an integral part of this coalition.

Other partner programs include:

- Born Learning (program of United Way of the Greater Capital Region)
- Creating Assets, Savings and Hope (CA\$H) of the Greater Capital Region
- Schenectady's Promise: The Alliance for Youth