



November 1, 2024

Dear

In my role as Literacy Unlimited's Interim Program Coordinator, I have had the privilege of witnessing the determination of our students and the enthusiasm of our volunteers first hand. Every day, I see conversation classes bursting with eager adult learners, and I hear tutor-student pairs chuckling as they tackle the quirks of English spelling and grammar. Literacy Unlimited provides vital services supported by a vibrant community, and I feel incredibly lucky to be a part of the work we do together. Last year, our team of over 130 volunteers provided free English and literacy programming to more than 320 students. With your help, we hope to reach even more in the year to come.

To understand the full impact of the Literacy Unlimited program, we look at not only how many students we work with, but also how deeply this program affects individual students' lives. Behind every student-tutor pair is a story of creative collaboration—working together as a team to achieve students' unique goals. I want to share a couple of these stories with you today.

Greyce and Rebecca

Greyce and Rebecca have been working together since 2022. According to Greyce, when she first came to Literacy Unlimited two years ago, she didn't speak or understand any English. "Now," she says, "I understand." Thanks in part to steady support from her tutoring sessions with Rebecca, Greyce got her Massachusetts CNA, home health aide, and CPR certificate in July 2024. She uses her increasing English skills in her work as a home health aide to feel more confident interacting with English-speaking medical staff. On top of that, she also works part-time managing a restaurant in Framingham, and she supports a family business based in Brazil. Greyce is passionate about supporting other Framingham residents; this summer she spoke to the mayor and other government officials about her desire to help the homeless in this city. Greyce says, "I need to learn many more things, but my English is better." She hopes to keep improving, so that one day she can become a tutor with Literacy Unlimited and help others learn English as well!



GREYCE & REBECCA

"I call her Super Greyce! She already is a leader in the Brazilian community, and with more and more English, I'm certain she will lift up the entire Framingham community by her example. It is a privilege to walk beside this kind of student and be lifted by her spirit."

Diego and Kathy

Diego and Kathy have been working together since 2019, first meeting in-person at the Framingham Library and later transitioning to online tutoring sessions in 2020. Diego has an advanced degree in culinary arts from Brazil. When restaurant jobs dried up during the pandemic, Diego decided to launch his catering business specializing in empanadas (Brazilian savory stuffed pastries). This year, Diego launched his site, goldenempadas.com, available in both English and Portuguese. Before the site went live, Kathy and Diego used several of their tutoring sessions to draft and proofread the English language version. Thanks to Diego's persistent hard work and Kathy's steadfast support, Golden Empadas is off to a great start! Diego regularly stocks his empanadas at several Brazilian grocery stores, sells them at a farmers market, and offers private catering services.

“I am extremely proud of Diego for his resourcefulness during such challenging times, his persistent hard work, and the successful debut of his business!”



Diego's GOLDEN EMPADAS

With your support, we can all be a part of more stories like Greyce's and Diego's. **Our goal this year is to raise \$25,000 in private donations to support our students.** This represents about 25% of our annual budget, so every donation counts—we really need your help in reaching this goal! Thank you for supporting the Literacy Unlimited community.

Sincerely,

Martha Coleman
LVM Literacy Unlimited, Interim Program Coordinator

Here's how your donation makes a difference.

\$88
Matches a tutor & student pair.

\$185
Allows a staff member to attend Network, an annual conference focusing on adult education in Massachusetts.

\$590
Covers the cost of subscriptions to digital resources for our tutors.

\$900
Sponsors a full tutor training session, allowing 10-20 new volunteers to become trained tutors with Literacy Unlimited.



Give today to change a life!

Here are two easy ways to donate—by check or online!

1. Complete and detach this contribution form. Mail the completed form along with a check payable to Literacy Unlimited of Framingham Foundation Inc. in the return envelope provided.
2. To donate by credit or debit card, go to our PayPal page at bit.ly/Support-Literacy-Unlimited from any browser.

YES! I want to help students learn English and Basic Literacy skills. Here is my enclosed contribution of:

\$88 \$185 \$590 \$900

Other: _____