



80 West Street, Suite A
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-269-4419
www.icanread.org

**Annapolis City Council Community Grants Program
Anne Arundel County Literacy Council Presentation
Support for Free Adult Education Program that Benefits Annapolis
Residents**

Grantee presentation #29 at 12:10 pm

April 23, 2024

Jane Seiss, Executive Director

The Anne Arundel County Literacy Council applied for \$4,000 in funding to support our adult education programs in Annapolis.

The Literacy Council provides free literacy, math, high school diploma, and English language instruction for low-income adults in Annapolis and throughout Anne Arundel County.

Every year, we help at least 38 Annapolis residents.

Our office is located at 80 West Street in the Department of Human Services complex.

We also tutor at the Jennifer Road Detention Center.

Our students work with tutors to:

- earn a high school diploma.
- find a job or a better-paying job,
- qualify for training programs,
- pass the ASVAB military entrance exam,

- speak and understand English,
- increase participation in their children's education,
- become citizens,
- or live independently.

Our services are all free — including books, one-on-one tutoring, and assessments.

Literacy Council tutors and staff are volunteers.

Last year, they donated more than 14,000 hours of their time.

Tutors meet students weekly for sessions at local libraries.

We work with —

Underserved people who were born and raised here, and a growing immigrant population.

Last year —

73% of our students were women.
about a third were African American
and a third were Hispanic.
10% were Asian.

Today, 39% of our students are Spanish speaking.

Thanks to our tutoring programs, students are empowered to move toward better lives, which also impacts youth and families.

Literacy Council programs contribute to the Annapolis economy by helping people qualify for and get hired for jobs.

Our dedicated volunteer staff provides year-round support for students and tutors.

An Annapolis Community Support Grant will enable us to —

- purchase books and materials for at least 38 Annapolis students,

- provide staff support for these students and their tutors,
- and to continue community outreach.

We requested \$4,000 total —

\$1,400 for books

\$2,600 for staff support

This is about \$105 per student.

Our FY25 operating budget will be about \$100,000.

More than \$96,000 will be funded by Anne Arundel County, foundations, corporate support, Literacy Council members, and other private donors.

With your help, we will make life better for many deserving people.

Thank you for your time and consideration.