

Literacy Volunteers of Illinois
VOCAL AmeriCorps
(Volunteer Outreach for Community Action in Literacy)
2024-2025
Host Sites

Centro Romero, 6216 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60660

Centro Romero, located on the northeast side of Chicago in the Edgewater neighborhood, is a non-profit organization providing options and opportunities for low-income Latino and other immigrants. Services offered include ESL and Spanish Literacy, Family Literacy, Immigration Services, and various programs for youth and women. Through education, Centro Romero emphasizes the development of the whole family unit, the creation of community leadership and self-reliance.

**Basic Spanish Skills Required*

HANA Center, 4300 N California Ave. Chicago, IL 60618

HANA's mission is to empower Korean American and multi-ethnic immigrant communities through social services, education, culture, and community organizing to advance human rights. HANA Center offers various language classes including English, Korean, and Spanish. HANA Center believes that culture and language are deeply intertwined and believe that language can become a tool to empower. Additionally, their citizenship classes provide immigrants with not only language skills, but also practical information and the confidence they need to navigate U.S. society and eventually improve the quality of their lives.

**Intermediate Korean Language Skills Requires*

Instituto del Progreso Latino (IDPL), 2570 S. Blue Island, Chicago, IL 60608 IDPL is an educational organization whose mission is to contribute to the fullest development of Latino immigrants and their families through education, training and employment. With offices in on the southwest side of Chicago and several different service locations, IDPL offers a continuum of adult education services from learning how to read in Spanish to the GED and onto college level classes ABE and pre-GED classes are also offered, as is English literacy for students with less than a 6th grade education in their first language. Also offered are computer literacy programs, internet access and employment-readiness and job placement assistance.

**Basic Spanish Language Skills Required*

The Learning Center House of Connections, 2153 S. Millard Avenue, Chicago, IL 60623

The Learning Center (TLC), serving the North Lawndale and Little Village communities of Chicago, supports adults in their pursuit of an educational path to more confident and effective living. Our students are diverse in race, culture, ethnicity, and experiences. Our core programming includes Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency, English as a Second Language, and Spanish Literacy classes. To support our literacy classes, we offer a tutoring

program, computer literacy classes, a health literacy program, a food assistance program, mental health counseling, cultural excursions, and more.

Literacy Chicago, 641 W. Lake Street, Suite 200, Chicago, IL 60661

Literacy Chicago is a nonprofit organization that empowers individuals to achieve greater self-sufficiency through language and literacy instruction. For more than four decades, thousands of adults have participated in the broad range of programs Literacy Chicago has developed, including basic literacy, GED preparation, English as a Second Language, Workforce Development, and Citizenship Program. Literacy Chicago continues its learner-focused programming by relying heavily on the efforts of volunteer tutors, and frequently offers ancillary classes such as health literacy, computer literacy, and financial literacy, to support the language/literacy options.

Literacy Volunteers of Illinois (LVI), 100 S. State Street, Suite 437, Chicago, IL 60603 LVI is a statewide organization that is committed to developing and supporting volunteer literacy programs that help families, adults and out-of-school teens increase their literacy skills. Founded in 1983, LVI conducts activities in four program area – Resource and Referral, National Service, Correctional Education and Information and Advocacy.

Jump Start at the Illinois Youth Centers (IYC)

IYC-Chicago, 136 N. Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60612

IYC-St Charles, 3825 Campton Hills Rd, St. Charles, IL 60175

A program of LVI that recruits retirees, especially retired teachers, to serve as tutors and mentors for youth incarcerated in the IYC.

ScaleLIT, 1016 W. Jackson Blvd. – Suite 205, Chicago, IL 60607

Scale Lit, formerly known as the Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition, helps adult education organizations secure resources and training so that underserved adult learners can become economically successful and reframes adult basic education as a critical public policy issue.

ScaleLIT offers Digital Literacy, Health Literacy, and Career Pathways programming for staff and adult learners in literacy programs, and, as the One-Stop Operator, is responsible for coordinating and integrating the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) partners' activities at American Job Centers.

Sunshine Community Services Center, 701 May Street, Kewanee, IL 61443 The Sunshine Community Services Center (SCSC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides educational programming and other support services to children and families in the west central Illinois city of Kewanee. The SCSC is the sponsor of the Step Ladder Tutoring Program which operates in the city's Middle Schools and through its CAPE-E (Communities Advancing Potential through Education and Empowerment) program, which is a collaboration with LVI, serves as a volunteer connector for various community agencies in the city of Kewanee. As part of its CAPE-E program, SCSC has full and part-time AmeriCorps serving in educational and empowerment capacities in the Step Ladder Tutoring Program and Black Hawk College.