

DEAR FRIENDS+SUPPORTERS

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to build bridges in our community between people of different cultures and life experiences. <u>YOU</u> make this work possible. You are our heroes!

English In Action's work strengthens the fabric of our community. As our adult learners thrive, pursue their dreams, and emerge as leaders, we all benefit. Our volunteer tutors also grow in meaningful ways; they feel more connected to their neighbors and gain perspective on both the challenges and joys of the immigrant experience.

The impacts of our programs continue to be realized over many years. Adriana Cabrera Torres joined us as a beginning English learner in 2000. In August, she confidently took the stage to share her story before 300 people at our Summer Benefit. Through years of persistence and hard work, she has achieved her dream of earning a college degree and working as a teacher in Roaring Fork Valley schools. Coming full circle, last year she returned to English In Action as a volunteer tutor in our Small Group Tutoring program. Because of your sustained support, hundreds of schoolchildren — as well as local adult learners — will benefit from all that Adriana has to offer.

At English In Action, we **unlock** human potential. Thank you for being the **key** to our success!

Kind regards,

Jara S. Beaulier



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TCCount



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"Becoming an English In Action tutor is one of the most rewarding things that I've ever done. When I started as a tutor, I thought I'd teach some English, but it's so much more!

Getting to know my student has created a friendship that means the world to me."

English In Action volunteer tutor

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IT'S A FAMILY AFFA

At English In Action, we believe a more connected community is a stronger one. Tutoring relationships that begin with a mutual goal of English language development often evolve into meaningful and enduring friendships.

What would happen if we could connect entire families to one another, not just individuals? Read on to find out!

When KATIE LORENZO (née Stewart) was growing up in Carbondale, she developed an early love for Spanish culture. Much later, she lived and worked in Cochabamba, Bolivia, where she met her future husband, HUMBERTO LORENZO. After returning home, Katie decided to volunteer for English In Action. Now, nearly three years after they met through our Individual Tutoring Program,



From left to right: Katie Lorenzo, her parents Doug and Ellen Stewart, and her husband Humberto Lorenzo, shown hiking in the mountains outside Cochabamba, Bolivia. PHOTO @ KATIE LORENZO

Katie and her learner, KRICIA ALVARADO, have become close friends. Kricia tells us she feels more confident taking risks with her English, like attending Katie's bridal shower, where she was the only Latina.

After Humberto and Katie were married in Colorado last summer, Humberto joined English In Action's Small Group Tutoring program. He knows that improving his English skills will allow him to communicate with Katie's parents better and provide a pathway to new work opportunities. Humberto values the community he's built with his classmates. "We identify with each other and encourage one another," he says. "More than anything, our classes are helping us lose the fear we feel in this process of learning English."



When asked why she decided to tutor for English In Action, Katie's mother **ELLEN STEWART** said that her faith and great belief in justice and fairness motivated her. While visiting Katie in Bolivia, Ellen remembers feeling handicapped by not being able to communicate well in Spanish. She's committed to helping remove those barriers for others.

English In Action recently connected Ellen with LORENA CERRITOS LAINEZ, and they are off to a great start. Ellen and Lorena recently enjoyed dinner out with their husbands and fellow tutoring pair, DOUG STEWART and ARCENIO GARCIA, to greet the holiday season and toast their newfound friendships.

For Lorena's husband Arcenio, meeting with his tutor Doug is about more than just learning English. Doug is helping him feel more included in U.S. culture. Arcenio says Doug is patient and creative in finding ways to help him understand the English language.

Doug cares about Arcenio and wants him to succeed. Of their connection, Doug says, "It gives me a chance to get to know my new friend and enjoy his company. English In Action made this happen." Doug shares his daughter's keen cultural curiosity and his wife's deep commitment to serving others. The Stewarts faith motivates them to ask, "How can I help?"

Connections created within English In Action programs, like those between Katie, Kricia, Humberto, Doug, Arcenio, Ellen, and Lorena, have enormous effects on individual lives. Amplified throughout the whole community, these unique friendships have the potential to transform our Roaring Fork Valley, and our society as a whole, for the better.

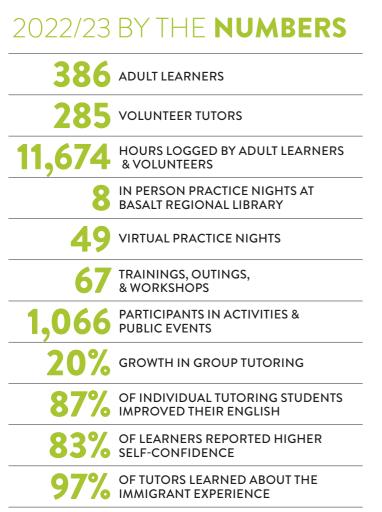


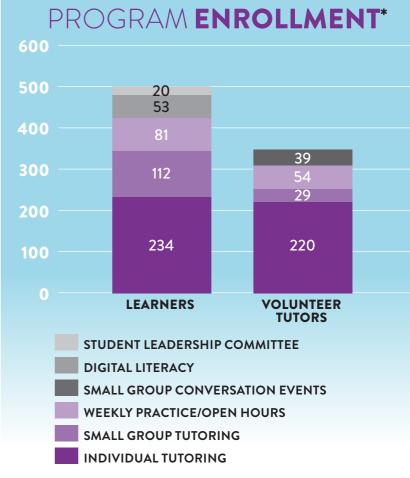
Arcenio Garcia,English In Action learner

PHOTO@MICHÉLE CARDAMONE PHOTOGRAPHY

THE RIPPLE EFFECT: **OUR IMPACT**

Thanks to the generous ongoing commitment of our donors, volunteer tutors, and adult learners, English In Action has improved the lives of thousands of individuals and families in our region since 1994. We measure our impact through the numbers served, services offered, and changes in language skills, as well as improvements in the quality of life for both adult learners and volunteer tutors.





^{*} Many learners and tutors enrolled in multiple programs.

DIGITAL LITERACY UNLOCKS NEW OPPORTUNITIES

English In Action's Digital Literacy and Equity Program helps narrow the digital divide by providing our students equitable access to technology and the skills necessary to participate in a virtual world. After completing a course in computer basics, our learners receive a new laptop or tablet for a voluntary donation. In its third year, we expanded this groundbreaking program beyond the basics to include intermediate and advanced digital literacy classes and one-on-one support.



Last year, we improved the program by integrating the NorthStar Digital Literacy platform, a national online curriculum that allows us and our students to track their progress and provides a more personalized learning experience. In a recent student satisfaction survey, 100% of participants reported that the program has enhanced their understanding of technology and has contributed to improving their lives.

We are proud of our Digital Literacy and Equity program's profound impact on the local immigrant families we serve. Graduates of our program use their newfound skills and devices to access information, news, and online banking, support their children's education, and pursue their own educational and career goals.

Rocio Hernandez shows off her digital literacy certificate of achievement.



SUMMER BENEFIT

Held on a beautiful evening in August at the Aspen Meadows' Doerr-Hosier Center, the theme of English In Action's sixth annual Summer Benefit was "Celebrating Community Leaders." A sold-out audience enjoyed live music and delicious refreshments during an opening reception, followed by a program highlighting the tremendous impact of English In Action's adult learners and volunteer tutors throughout our Roaring Fork Valley. English In Action unveiled its inaugural Community Leadership Award, which was graciously received by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Folklórico director Francisco Nevarez-Burgueño.

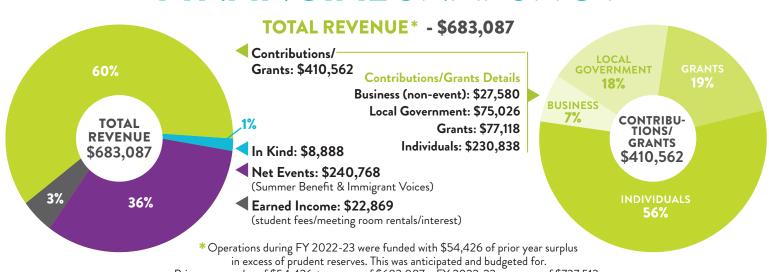


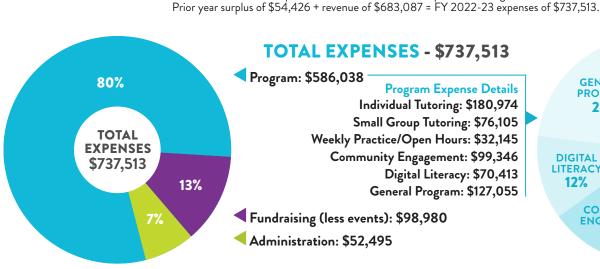
Our deepest gratitude to the many individuals and businesses who supported the Summer Benefit and who donated to English In Action during the event; our community's overwhelming generosity gives us much to celebrate!

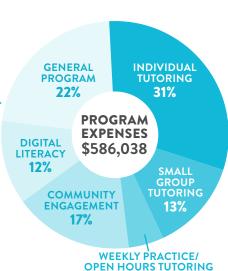
Pictured here enjoying Summer Benefit are Susan Cottle and Lynn Nichols (top, L to R); Rob Pew, Heather Hicks Stumpf, Nancy Magoon, Susan Lodge, and Susan Taylor (bottom, L to R).

PHOTO © HAL WILLIAMS

FINANCIALSNAPSHOT







ENGLISH IN ACTION STUDENT LEADERS TAKE CHARGE



Guiding principles of English In Action's Student Leadership Committee:

We believe in giving back to English In Action, an organization that has given us so much. We are a diverse committee
of competent students
who believe that by
working collectively, we
can achieve more.

We create and offer development opportunities within English In Action and in the wider community that create links with different organizations in the Roaring Fork Valley.

By sharing, organizing, and offering different opportunities for our community, we are building and strengthening our own leadership skills.

In the past year, members of English In Action's Student Leadership Committee have created and delivered five bilingual and Spanish-only workshops designed to help other learners and local immigrant community members gain access to new opportunities, professional skills, and public resources. From citizenship FAQs to nutrition best practices to a successful relaunch of our signature Fiesta de Tamales, "El Comité Estudiantil de English In Action" is making a substantial

positive impact in our community.

DE TAMALES!

For the first time in three years, English In Action's signature community fundraising event, Fiesta De Tamales, returned with a bang this past September. A fun, family-friendly event, Fiesta brought together 400+community members from different backgrounds to celebrate diverse cultures and enjoy homemade tamales and pupusas.



Volunteer Gloria Tamayo with her signature Colombian-style tamales.

Fiesta-goers were entertained by Mezcla Socials Dance, DJ Joeli Villa, and Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Folklórico, and they judged a fiercely competitive tamale contest, crowning longtime English In Action student Bernadina Bañuelos the winner. Our younger guests took swings at piñatas made by students at Aspen Middle School, created works of art at a Día de los Muertos-themed crafts table, and enjoyed a bounce house. New this year, English In Action's Student Leadership Committee played an integral role in organizing and executing the Fiesta.

Embodying the true meaning of community, ninety-two people volunteered for Fiesta and over forty businesses supported the event.

A heartfelt thank you to our non-profit partners, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Folklórico and The Art Base, and to former English In Action student and caterer Alma Guzman who supplied our homemade tamale meals and Rosario Zuniga who made our pupusas. Our deep gratitude also to our sponsors and all who volunteered to make the much-anticipated return of Fiesta a resounding success.

WHAT'S **NEXT?**

English In Action has operated out of an 1,800 square foot modular building in El Jebel since 2005. Our space no longer meets our needs. As many of our supporters know, for the last two years we have been thoughtfully designing and raising lead funds for English In Action's new Center for Communication to be built in our current location. Our new space will create a much-needed home for our local immigrant community and substantially expand our services and learning opportunities.

We plan to break ground in early 2024.

stay tuned in the coming months for the launch of the community phase of our \$5 million Welcome Home capital campaign when we will share more details and invite all to be part of this transformational time in our organization!



THANK YOU TO ENGLISH IN ACTION'S GENEROUS DONORS!

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^{*} Members of the English In Action American Dreamers Giving Circle (members make a multi-year commitment at a substantial level). For more information, see www.englishinaction.org.

^{**} In-kind donations (donors who gave both cash and in kind donations will have a listings for each type of gift).

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Please join us again in 2024 by becoming a volunteer, a monthly donor, or joining our American Dreamer's giving circle.

Online gifts can be made at www.englishinaction.org.

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