

English Action

building community since 1994

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



dear friends and supporters,

What an extraordinary year in the history of English In Action! Last year, we celebrated our 30th anniversary of building community across cultures and strengthening the English skills of adult immigrants living in the Roaring Fork Valley. English In Action's programs are thriving and having a deeper impact than ever before. Our strong financials and robust fundraising are a testament to the health of our organization and the deep commitment of our supporters and participants to our mission.

A highlight this year was breaking ground on English In Action's new 6,000 square foot Center for Communication and completing our \$5 million Welcome Home capital campaign to fund the construction of our new home. This project will allow English In Action to expand our services and serve many more people over the next thirty years and beyond.

We believe deeply in the importance of building strong relationships between individuals of diverse cultural backgrounds and welcoming immigrant community members who are vital to the health and well-being of our region.

We invite you to read on to learn more about the impact of your support. In this 2023-24 Annual Report, you'll find special features on our impact over 30 years and our Welcome Home campaign for our new Center for Communication. Thank you for your crucial role in making our work at English In Action possible.

With profound gratitude,

Lara S. Beaulin

Lara S. Beaulieu Executive Director Robert Hubbell Board Chair

Robert Hubbell

Estela Lopez Gudiño Board Vice-Chair

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SAMUEL BERNAL

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PATRICK CURRY

HELENE GUDE

SUSAN LODGE

*Deceased. See tribute on page 19.
**Interim staff

OUI PROGRAMS

By connecting community volunteers with adult learners one-on-one and in small groups, we empower individuals, strengthen families, and enhance the fabric of our community. At English In Action, we tailor our programs to meet the varied needs of our participants.



INDIVIDUAL TUTORING

Our flagship program. Volunteer tutors are matched with individual learners for an initial commitment of an hour a week for at least six months. Most pairs continue for approximately two years.



SMALL GROUP TUTORING

Groups of 3-10 learners with similar English levels meet with a volunteer tutor for 1.5 hours per week over 12-week sessions.



OPEN HOURS CONVERSATION PRACTICE

Each week learners "drop-in" and are matched with a volunteer tutor for 90 minutes of informal English practice.



DIGITAL LITERACY + EQUITY

Basic through advanced digital literacy skills are taught in Spanish in group classes meeting for two hours per week over 14-week sessions.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Outings for participants in collaboration with community partners are offered throughout the year, in addition to leadership training, civic engagement opportunities, life-skills development, and community events.

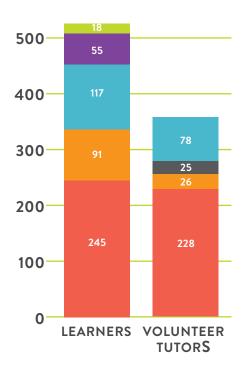


STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

The 16-member committee meets regularly, plans and offers workshops and activities, advises on important decisions for the organization, and at least two members of the committee sit as voting members on the Board of Directors.

2023-24 PROGRAM ENROLLMENT*





- STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
- DIGITAL LITERACY + EQUITY
- OPEN HOURS
 CONVERSATION PRACTICE
- SMALL GROUP COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
- SMALL GROUP TUTORING
- INDIVIDUALIZED TUTORING

*Enrollment reflects total participation. Many learners and tutors enroll in multiple programs, resulting in greater growth in skill development.

2023-24 BY THE NUMBERS





447

GROUP ENGLISH + DIGITAL LITERACY CLASSES



15,569

TOTAL HOURS LOGGED BY LEARNERS + VOLUNTEERS



67

TRAININGS, OUTINGS + WORKSHOPS



1.113

PARTICIPANTS IN PUBIC EVENTS + CELEBRATIONS

our adult learners

65% 35%

AGES

18

AVERAGE

OLDEST

YOUNGEST

LEARNERS FROM 23 COUNTRIES



creating community connections

TWO PEOPLE AT A TIME

One-on-one tutoring is the heart and soul of English In Action. Adults who want to improve their English skills are matched with volunteer tutors. The pairs meet for approximately an hour a week at a convenient time and location. While the initial commitment is for six months, most pairs decide to continue meeting much longer; our current match duration averages two years. Our longest serving Individual Tutoring pair met regularly for over 15 years and are lifelong friends (see related story on this page)! Learning English is the starting point for these tutoring relationships, but many of our pairs develop strong bonds that have a positive ripple effect throughout the Roaring Fork Valley.

PLEASE WELCOME SOME OF THE MANY INDIVIDUAL TUTORING PAIRS WHO JOINED ENGLISH IN ACTION IN 2023-24!



Michael McClain and Simon Perez have been friends for nearly two decades after being matched as a tutoring pair in July 2005.



Last fall, long-time locals Michael and his wife Charlotte moved out of the valley to live near family, bringing an important chapter in their lives to a close. English In Action is deeply grateful for their service to our community. Michael and Simon logged more than 430 hours together over the years as a tutoring pair, and many more as friends. Michael watched Simon's children grow up and considers Simon his family. As Charles Darwin said: "A man's friendships are one of the best measures of his worth." Michael and Simon, you are an inspiration to us all!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST FISCAL YEAR'S individual TUTORING PROGRAM

OF LEARNERS SELF-REPORTED IMPROVED ENGLISH SKILLS



85%

OF FIRST YEAR LEARNERS SHOW ENGLISH SKILL IMPROVEMENT ON NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ASSESSMENTS



85%

OF STUDENTS INCREASED THEIR SENSE OF WELL BEING:



Luis shared that he feels much more confident. He is no longer intimidated to speak to people.

Marta feels less nervous when speaking in English and will try to answer people at work even if she is not certain of every word. Cristian feels more secure at work due to his improved English. His boss now talks directly to him instead of involving a third person to translate.

76%

OF LEARNERS INCREASED THEIR ABILITY TO DO THINGS THAT WERE ONCE DIFFICULT DUE TO BARRIERS:



Glenda signed up for classes through Colorado Mountain College to complete her High School diploma. Lorena communicates in English with her clients and listens to the radio in English only.

Monica no longer needs an interpreter when speaking with her child's teacher, who only speaks English.

36%

OF LEARNERS REPORT A SIGNIFICANT LONG-TERM LIFE IMPROVEMENT:



Marco received a promotion at his job with the school district.

Kathy earned her U.S. citizenship last winter, affording her more employment options.

Miguel is now a high school graduate.

small GROUP TUTORING:

KINSHIP THROUGH LANGUAGE LEARNING

While Individual Tutoring is still English In Action's largest program, our Small Group classes have gained in popularity and now are a key component of our language development programs.

Small Group Tutoring offers students the opportunity to learn practical English with 3-10 other learners who share their proficiency level. Each class is led by one volunteer tutor and meets once a week for 90 minutes. Classes run for 12-week semesters in the fall, winter, and spring, with a shortened 8-week session in the summer. Upon completion of the semester, students can choose to stay in the program and advance to the next level of learning.

English In Action's Small Group Tutoring program began in 2015 as a way to quickly serve new learners who were waiting to be matched with an Individual Tutor. The program has now become a keystone of our language development offerings and served 91 students last year with the help of 26 volunteers. Small Group Tutoring allows tutors to build continuity for students using a set curriculum and promotes group bonding through shared challenges and successes. Many tutors take their classes on outings geared toward acquiring practical English in real-time, like eating at a restaurant together or touring City Market. Longtime Small Group tutor Katie Sanders spoke of her class's kinship when she said,

"What I like about instructing a group is the opportunity to create a circle of friends and celebrate our improvement together. As we learn together, we also get a sense of each other's personalities, interests, humor, etc. It makes the experience that much more fun and rewarding."

As we look forward to our new home in the Center for Communication, we aim to grow Small Group Tutoring by offering more classes in our expanded facility.



open hours CONVERSATION PRACTICE:

NOW IN CARBONDALE!

English In Action expanded its popular conversation class, Open Hours, to Carbondale last year.

From 2008 to 2020, we held these free and informal drop-in sessions every Thursday in El Jebel. They now take place weekly on Monday evenings at Carbondale Library. **Students and tutors form small groups and practice English through conversations, reading books and newspapers, and playing games.** Volunteers in this program include both native English speakers and advanced English In Action students.

Last fiscal year we welcomed 117 learners and 78 tutors to in-person and virtual Open Hours, a 44% increase in participation over the prior year. Much of this bump in attendance came from in-person participants in Carbondale, including local young professionals volunteering as tutors. In the spring and summer of 2024, we also served newcomers from Venezuela who were eager to improve their English proficiency. The flexible time commitment and convenient downtown Carbondale location make Open Hours a perfect opportunity for students and tutors to connect and learn together. We look forward to welcoming new students and tutors to the program in 2025!



digital LITERACY PROGRAM:

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Since its launch in 2021, English In Action's Digital Literacy and Equity program has seen significant success in empowering adult learners with essential technology skills, which enhances their ability to navigate online resources, avoid internet scams, apply for jobs, and stay connected with family and services.

Previously this program focused on beginning learners, but many participants requested longer courses to help them develop advanced skills. In response, we developed a 14-week course schedule. Students begin with the basics, followed immediately by intermediate and advanced classes that allow them to dig deeper into software functions and practice newly acquired skills.

A standout achievement this past year was the introduction of Tech Mentors—students who have completed basic computer classes and are now serving as peer leaders in the same workshops. Our Tech Mentors provide invaluable support to their fellow learners, helping them navigate technical challenges and fostering community and shared learning. Eugenio Lara joined the program in 2023 as a 70+ year old with no prior computer knowledge. Undaunted by his inexperience with technology, he progressed last year to becoming a Tech Mentor. In September, he used cloud tools and artificial intelligence to create and present a PowerPoint slideshow on countries he plans to visit. His growth from student to mentor exemplifies the efficacy and goals of the program. It also shows Eugenios's dedication to learning at any age, and his willingness to help others transform their lives.

Next up for Digital Literacy: We look to expand on the success of the Tech Mentor model to provide more leadership opportunities and ongoing support for new and returning participants.

2023-2024 SNAPSHOT

laptop computers were distributed to learners last 20 year, most free of cost or for a voluntary donation. of respondents confirmed their improved 100% understanding of technological concepts (in a recent survey of program participants). reported a more positive attitude toward 95% technology, feeling motivated to learn new skills without fear of making mistakes. of participants used their newfound skills on a 90% regular basis.





community engagement

OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE ENGLISH IN ACTION FAMILY

We offer opportunities throughout the year for participants to practice English in new settings, get to know other organizations around the valley, and broaden their cultural experiences.

We provide these community engagement activities with the help of valued partners including the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies (ACES), Aspen Skiing Company, Theatre Aspen, The Art Base, Independence Pass Foundation, and Aspen Valley Land Trust. Exploring the Roaring Fork Valley together helps English In Action students and tutors deepen their friendships and engage more fully in all that our community has to offer.

After a night at Theatre Aspen with her tutor last summer, one student shared,

"I really enjoyed the play. When I was young, and still living in Brazil, I went to many cultural events, which I have not continued in my life in the United States. I think that this push from English In Action is the program's greatest value. English In Action gives me the opportunity to be a part of a community where I really belong and can grow."

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

A Way Out

American Red Cross

Anderson Ranch

The Art Base

Aspen Art Museum

Aspen Center for Environmental Studies

Aspen Music Festival

Aspen Skiing Company

Aspen Sante Fe Ballet Folklórico

Aspen Valley Land Trust/Coffman Ranch

Basalt High School

Basalt Regional Library

Carbondale Branch Library

CC's Café

Chapman Foundation for Caring

Communities

City of Aspen

Colorado Mountain College

Colorado Rocky Mountain School

Crawford Properties

Crown Mountain Park and Recreation

District

Crystal River Elementary School

Healthy All Together

Holiday Baskets Program

Independence Pass Foundation

Intercambio: Uniting Communities

Human Service Innovations

La Clinica del Pueblo

Mezcla Socials Dance

Manaus Equity Action Project

Michele Cardamone Photography

Mid Valley Family Practice

Mobile Intercultural Resource Alliance (MIRA)

Mountain Family Health

Mountain Heart Brewery

Mountain Voices Project

Okim Visuals

The Orchard

The Painted Pig

Pitkin County Library

Roaring Fork Leadership

Seed Peace

Smith Immigration

TACAW (The Arts Campus at Willits)

Taqueria El Yaki

Theatre Aspen

Third Street Center

Three Trees Connections

Top of the World Cultivators

Valley Settlement

The Whole Empanada

Writ Large & Alya Howe's Performing Arts





student LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE AMPLIFIES LOCAL IMPACT



Student Leaders Gladys Arango Marcon, left, and Guilman Henrriquez address the crowd at Fiesta de Tamales



Participants learn CPR basics at a 2024 workshop hosted by the English In Action Student Leadership Committee and American Red Cross.



David Mora, left, volunteers at Summer Benefit with fellow Student Leader Cristina Torres.

The English In Action Student Leadership Committee acts as a bridge of communication between the organization and the adult students it serves. Feedback from the Committee helps ensure that English In Action keeps our students' needs front and center.

Committee members have also donated hours of volunteer time to help promote key program and fundraising initiatives. They are dedicated to actively participating in English In Action programs and events, training to build their own leadership skills, and providing useful workshops for other students and the community at large. By enhancing their leadership skills and promoting lifelong learning, Student Leaders inspire each other to take on new challenges and work as a team to deliver a lasting positive impact in their own lives and in the greater community.

David Mora is one of English In Action's inspiring Student Leaders. After more than a decade as part of English In Action, David decided to go all-in in 2023 and 2024. He is a regular face at Open Hours conversation practice, he has doubled down on learning within his Small Group, and he now owns and operates his own computer, thanks to his participation in Digital Literacy. Last February, David joined the Student Leadership Committee. Always up for a challenge and eager to contribute, David has volunteered at Student Leadership workshops, the Summer Benefit (see photo at left), and Fiesta de Tamales. He was recently elected to serve as a student representative on the Board of Directors and looks forward to being part of English In Action's upcoming strategic planning.

OUI' TUTORS

Volunteers are the core of English In Action's work, enriching our programs with a wide range of life experiences and backgrounds. While most volunteer tutors are adults, last year 13 motivated high school students volunteered as well.

Tutors are most often motivated to volunteer to help someone learn English, welcome newcomers, serve the community, and learn about a new culture.

97%	of Individual tutors surveyed reported that they have learned more about the issues faced by immigrants as a result of volunteering with English In Action.
97%	reported that they feel their awareness of a culture other than their own has increased.
88%	of tutors have built friendships with their adult learners that they believe will endure beyond the tutoring experience.

"This program is about so much more than simply learning another language. Every time I talk with my student, I feel like I'm expanding my understanding of another culture and of how our U.S. system works—and fails—to support all people in our country. If we all build personal connections, we could change the world. English In Action is part of that, and I am grateful to be part of it."

-English In Action volunteer tutor Merry Keefe



ENGLISH IN ACTION THANKS OUT AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!

(Volunteers active in fiscal year 23/24)

Gabriela Alvarez Espinoza Simona Amstutz Tait Andersen Ben Anderson

Maria Elena Avila Bustos

Katie Bailey Neema Baker Shelley Baker Supplee Jimena Baldino Jennifer Balmes Caroline Barnes Heather Beattie Lara Beaulieu Jennifer Beltran Jeff Bernstein

Vanessa Biebl Amy Binder Nell Birk

George Bohmfalk
Carly Bolliger
Cheryl Bomersback
Terry Bordan
Jennifer Bouchet
Emma Bright
Jennifer Broderick
Mercedes Brown
Isla Brumby Nelson
Matt Buchanan

Rosemary Burkholder

Brett Burch

Jean Burks
John Burks
Jean Campbell
Elizabeth Caris
Ivan Cassar
Alejandra Castaño
Norma Aide Castañon

Donna Chase
Molly Cherney
Lisa Chiles
Frank Chudy
Katherine Coe
Eric Cohen
Jill Cohen
Julie Cohen

Eli Cohen

Kate Collins
Julie Comins
Melinda Conner
Will Conrad
Hillary Contreras
Rosa Contreras
Brooke Coon
David Coon
Susan Cooper
Helen Copping
Richard Cornelius

Susan Cottle
Jay Coursey
Brooks Cowles
Davis Cowles
Heather Crotty
Pam Cumming

Kim Dahl Robin Danell Stephanie Davis Maja Decker Niki Delson Marjorie DeLuca Holly DeWire

John DiBenedetto Stella Doble Charles Dorger Megan Douglass Jocelyn Durrance Laura Ebone

Sue Edelstein Leigh Edlind Jennie Edwards Jean Eis Melissa Eisenstat

Susy Ellison Sally Faison Tim Faust

Lynne Feigenbaum Anna Feiss Beatriz Ferrufino Julie Feuerborn Dan Feuerborn Helga Fisch JP Fitzpatrick David Floria Elise Fuente

John Fullerton Anjanette Garcia Mabel Gardner Hilary Garnsey Paige Gibbons

Tabatha Godoy Jennifer Goldfarb Karen Gonzalez-Machuca

Amy Gordon
Pat Goudvis
Sam Graf
Staci Greenfield
Jane Gross
Hilary Gross
Bob Guion
Nina Gworek

Rebecca Hall
Kim Hamilton
Angela Hanley
Gary Harada
Patty Harris
Bunny Harrison
Susan Hartnett
Robin Haugland
Carol Hawk
Mera Heckrodt

Carol Hawk
Mera Heckrodt
Leo Helzberg
Meg Hendricks
Jane Hendricks
Heather Hicks Stumpf

Marilyn Hill Harper Dave Hollendack Emery Holton Bourke Denise Hoogland Mark Howard Robert Hubbell Katie Hyman Alex Ignath Virginia Invernizzi

Stephanie Janiga Peter Johnson Sandy Johnson Stefan Johnson Jupiter Johnson Craig Jones Carolyn W. Kane

Tim Karfs
Merry Keefe
Jane Kelly
Morgan Kennedy
Kristin Kenny
Betsy Key
Patrick King
Sandi Kister
Kerry Kleisner
Martha Kliebert
Ramona Klinger

Klaus Kocher Ron Kokish Ann Kough Jeane Lakin Rae Lampe Alexandria Latz

Rosemarie Lavender Sara Lenart Dori Libson Susannah Lickus

William Lipsey Susan Lodge Laurie Loeb Linda Loeschen Margaret Long Estela Lopez Gudiño

Katie Lorenzo Brenda Ludwig Shelley Lundh Molly Lynch Stephanie Mahon

Christy Mahon Lincoln Manuel

Juan Manuel Martin Cespedes

Jazmin Martinez
Linda Maslow
Margaret Mathers
Rachel Matheson
Sasha Mathieu
Jireh McCann
David McDaniel
Madeleine McDowell
Christopher Bode McDowell

Josephine McKinlet-Kitchell Kim McKinley Michael McLain Kate McWilliams Sydney Melko

Mary Anne Meyer

Shannon Meyer Anastasia Miliano Emily Miller Bernard Moffroid Maggie Moline Karen Moore

Erlinda Morehead Steven Moreno Susanne Morrison Patrick Morrissy Carolyn Mount Natalie Mount Peter Mueller Aaron Munch

Lauren Munger Tim Mutrie Kirstin Neff

Sadie Neumann Lynn Nichols Nona Niland Caroline Norquist Jeff Novogratz Carrie Nydahl Catherine O'Connell

Feenagh O'Donnell Barbara Olson Kate Ott Jeff Palmer Jane Pargiter Anne Pausback Rich Pearce Carla Peltonen

Jenny Perez

Wendy Perkins

Paula Petersen Nancy Peterson Kirsten Petre McDaniel

Illene Pevec
Juliana Pittz
Nico Plume
Polly Pollard
Steve Prudden
Lee Pruitt
Julie Puchkoff

John Putnam Gaye Quaranta LaCroix

Sky Quarto
Juan Manuel Quiroga
Rodrigo Quiroga
Glenn Rappaport
Sheri Rayes
Catherine Reagan
Ursula Reed
Jane Rich
Enid Ritchy
Helen Rubenstein
Lynn Russell

Martha Rybak Veronica Sacur Teresa Salvadore Kathryn Sanders Fallon Santander Karla Santos Suzanne Scheer Kim Scheuer Rachel Schmidt Linda Schuman Ruben Schwarte Frank Sgambati Carole Sharp Brandon Sheaffer John Shurman Charlie Silverman Mike Simmons Joshua Sladdin Christi Small Lucy Smythe Julie Sonson Prudence Spink Liz Stark

Natalie Stephens Doug Stewart Ellen Stewart Danny Stone Harper Stone Alan Storey* Martin Suthren Kenny Teitler Jill Thomas Joan Tidwell Molly Tiernan Caroline Tory Sarah Tory Jasmine Tygre Barbara Uboe Meighan Vafa Robin Van Domelen Heidi Vargas

Ana Velasquez

Deirdre Venables

Veronica Vergara Tysiatchnaia Belem Vetter

Monica Vidal Ann Vores Daniel Walker Graham Ward Linda Watchman Betsy Wedemeyer Marcia Weese Betsy Welch Polly Whitcomb Starker White Melissa Wilkinson Madison Wilkinson Mira Winograd Gracie Wright Dan Wright Kathryn Yang Lewis Yang Salome Zikakis Ted Zislis Sue Zislis

* Deceased



Over the last 30 years, English In Action has transformed the Roaring Fork Valley through 129,000 hours of learning and 1,000's of new friendships created.

HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR THREE DECADES OF IMPACT





2,750 ADULT LEARNERS



1,800 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS



1,965 DONORS



89,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS



140 NEW CITIZENS + EDUCATIONAL DEGREES



1,650 NEW JOBS SECURED BY LEARNERS





45,000 LIVES ENRICHED THROUGH THE RIPPLE EFFECT

steady MOTIVATED QUIETLY FIERCE

These are traits that make learning a new language and culture a bit easier, and Beatriz Ferrufino has them in spades. In 2009, Beatriz joined English In Action as a shy but determined student. She wanted to master the English language to gain more self-confidence and feel like she belonged here in the Roaring Fork Valley. Through her own persistence and sustained engagement with English In Action programs over the last sixteen years, Beatriz has achieved many of her learning goals and become a nonprofit leader with several organizations, including ours.



Over the years, Beatriz has become friends with four tutors through English In Action's Individual Tutoring Program, and it was her relationship with longtime volunteer Janet Schoeberlein that truly elevated her language learning. A stickler for grammar, Janet helped Beatriz grow by setting high expectations and pushing her out of her comfort zone. Rising to the challenge, during the 5+ years that Beatriz and Janet met regularly, Beatriz earned her GED, enrolled in college-level courses, secured a job in a nonprofit organization, and joined other nonprofits doing community work in different roles, all while balancing the needs of her family.

Beatriz is passionate about helping other English In Action students succeed and ensuring that our organization continues to represent the needs of our participants. She was hired to join the English In Action staff in 2020. Beatriz brings genuine care for her students and tutors to her role as a Match Advisor in the Individual Tutoring Program. She is also dedicated to helping other students engage as leaders and is now in charge of the Student Leadership Committee. She leads committee meetings, recruits and supports members, and drives the group's strategy (see related story on page 11).

Even though Beatriz is now a member of English In Action staff and works in a predominantly English-speaking environment, she has remained committed to her lifelong English practice. She and her current tutor, Kenny Teitler, meet weekly in Carbondale and are laser-focused on Beatriz's current learning goals. They practice the finer points of English pronunciation and grammar together and have shared many laughs along they way. Investing in their relationship is changing both of their lives for the better.

"English In Action is not just an organization focused on supporting people to learn a second language," says Beatriz. "It's an organization that creates strong relationships based on respect between tutors and students. Those relationships help students, like me, to develop a sense of strength and belonging."

Over the last 30 years, English In Action has helped thousands thrive by fostering cross-cultural connections and providing pathways to greater community engagement. The true impact can be seen in the ways that long-term students, like Beatriz, are transforming our community for the better.

coming soon! OUR new Home!

Something extraordinary is happening in El Jebel! Last May, English In Action broke ground on our new Center for Communication. And in January 2025, we completed our Welcome Home capital campaign to fund this project! We expect to move into our 6,000 sq. ft. home by summer 2025. Our new Center for Communication will pave the way for substantial expansion of our impact in the years to come.

English In Action is profoundly grateful for your faith in our mission and this project. Fundraising for this campaign has been anything but ordinary. To date, 430 individuals and organizations have contributed to make this dream a reality. More than 50% of donors are our adult learners and volunteer tutors, many giving their first—or largest—charitable donation ever.

Many capital campaigns are funded by a handful of generous donors who are willing to dig deep to make something special possible. The Welcome Home capital campaign succeeded because our entire community came together with a common commitment to the power of communication and friendship. A key early supporter was Crawford Properties, which donated a 50-year land lease, ensuring that every dollar raised went to constructing the building. Donations ranged from \$5 to \$700,000. Our donors include well-known philanthropists, business leaders, retirees, and workers of all backgrounds in every sector of our local economy. Together, we have raised just shy of \$5.5 million in less than three years to cover the costs of construction and ensure that the space honors the contributions of adult immigrants and volunteer tutors for generations. Please find our full Welcome Home donor list on pages 25–27 of this report.

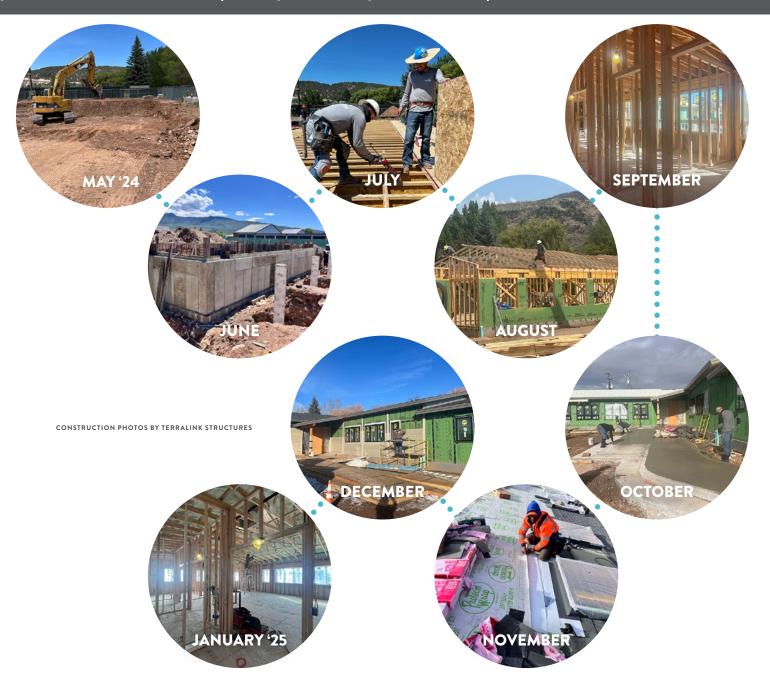
Our community is deeply committed to creating a welcoming home for immigrants in the Roaring Fork Valley. English In Action's new Center for Communication will feature 12 spaces for classroom and paired learning; a place for children to play when parents are in class; a full residential kitchen to share food across cultures; an outdoor gathering space, and ample workspace for our dedicated staff.

Keep your eyes out for an invitation to our ribbon cutting celebration this spring. We can't wait to welcome you to our new home!





English In Action learners and volunteers helped break ground on the English In Action Center for Communication.



our vision. OUR FUTURE.

immigrant voices

BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH STORYTELLING

Storytelling is an important way that humans build lasting connections, but many immigrants have limited opportunities to share their stories with the wider community. Even when these opportunities arise, immigrants may not have the language ability to participate. English In Action's annual live story-telling event, Immigrant Voices, provides a forum to celebrate and honor the diverse life experiences of the vibrant immigrant community in the Roaring Fork Valley.

Last February, a sold-out crowd filled The Arts Campus at Willits (TACAW) to hear from six immigrant storytellers, including three adult learners from English In Action programs. After months of coaching sessions with event curator Alya Howe—a local performing artist and fellow immigrant—performers took center stage to share stories about childhood mischief, finding love in new places, and overcoming adversity to support their families.

Audience members experienced a wide range of emotions throughout the evening. They sat in emotional silence as Sandra recounted the daunting challenges that she and her son faced when immigrating to the United States by themselves many years ago. Later, they laughed when Luly described her youthful misadventures skipping school and the life lessons learned from them. We wish we had more space here to include all the inspiring stories of the evening. Please visit English In Action's YouTube channel @ englishinaction9796 to hear more from all of last year's featured storytellers.

True to English In Action's mission, Immigrant Voices helps create a more connected community by bringing people together to honor differences and highlight our shared human experiences. Year after year, audiences tell us how the event touches their hearts. We look forward to the return of Immigrant Voices to TACAW in April 2025!



SUMMER BENEFIT: CHEERS TO 30 YEARS!

Last July, English In Action welcomed supporters to its 7th annual Summer Benefit, a celebration of 30 years of changing lives. More than 230 guests enjoyed a beautiful evening at the Aspen Meadows Resort with cocktails, dinner, live jazz from Josefina Méndez, and powerful stories from our students and tutors.

Veronica Rosales, an immigrant from Mexico City and an English In Action learner for fifteen years, delivered the keynote address at the event. Rosales was inspired to join English In Action after she was turned away from a job that required her to speak English. Through her own hard work and dedication to consistent one-on-one sessions with her tutor, Lynn Russell, Rosales has become proficient in English and now owns a business in the Roaring Fork Valley.

During her remarks, Rosales acknowledged how much she values her friendship with Lynn and how English In Action programs have tangibly impacted her sense of belonging in the Roaring Fork Valley and her ability to advocate for her kids.



"When you feel more comfortable communicating with people you can get a better job, go to your doctor's appointment, and go to the store. I went to the school with my kids and could talk with the teachers."

-English In Action learner and Summer Benefit speaker Veronica Rosales

Both of Rosales' sons were in the audience to encourage their mother. Seven-year-old Stephen caused a ripple of emotion through the crowd when, just as mom took the stage, he said, "You can do it, Mommy!" Not a dry eye was left in the house, and a rousing paddle-raise ensued!

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the many businesses and individuals who helped make this Summer Benefit the best ever, with special thanks to our Presenting Sponsors, Melony and Adam Lewis. Every donation expanded the impact of our programs, which strengthen language and leadership skills of adult immigrants and bring our community closer together by fostering enduring friendships.



Bill Harriman, left, with friends Jeanne and Andrew Doremus at Summer Benefit.

IN MEMORY OF WILSON "BILL" HARRIMAN

In December 2024, we were saddened by the passing of Bill Harriman, a member of the English In Action Advisory Council and longtime supporter of our mission. Through his custom-building firm Harriman Construction, Bill sponsored our Summer Benefit and other English In Action events for more than a decade. He was deeply committed to giving back to the community and supporting our immigrant workforce which contributes so much to the construction industry. We will miss seeing Bill's friendly face at English In Action events and are grateful for his sage advice and invaluable contributions to our work.

fiesta be tamales



English In Action's Fiesta de Tamales is a familyfriendly community fundraiser that brings together hundreds of community members from different backgrounds for an authentic celebration of the diverse cultural traditions in the Roaring Fork Valley.

In late October 2024, over 420 guests came together at The Orchard in Carbondale to enjoy a delicious tamale meal, an international food tasting, and live performances by DJ Joeli Villa, Mezcla Socials Dance, and Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Folklórico.

One highlight of this year's Fiesta was the inaugural International Food Tasting. Tasting mastermind Beatriz Ferrufino, who is English In Action's Student Leadership Manager and Match Advisor, was looking for a new way to showcase the many different immigrant cultures thriving in the Roaring Fork Valley.

"I thought about how wonderful it would be to create a space where different people could share a piece of their culture through their food. In the end, we had representation from eight different countries. This felt much more inclusive than our tamale contests of past events, and people truly appreciated the opportunity to share their cultural heritage in such a meaningful way."

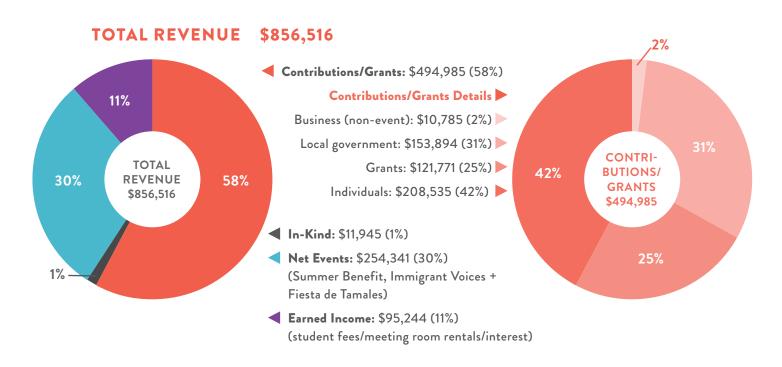
English In Action's Fiesta de Tamales is all about strengthening cross-cultural connections in our community and cultivating a rich, fun, and flavorful experience for our guests. It really does take a village to make the event come alive, and English In Action's village showed up in force! Our sincere gratitude goes out to the 110 volunteers, 35 business sponsors, and our non-profit partners whose efforts and support made Fiesta possible. Special kudos to longtime English In Action student Bernardina Bañuelos, who, with her sister Carmen, handcrafted and served 1,050 tamales with all the fixings.

Scenes from Fiesta de Tamales 2024

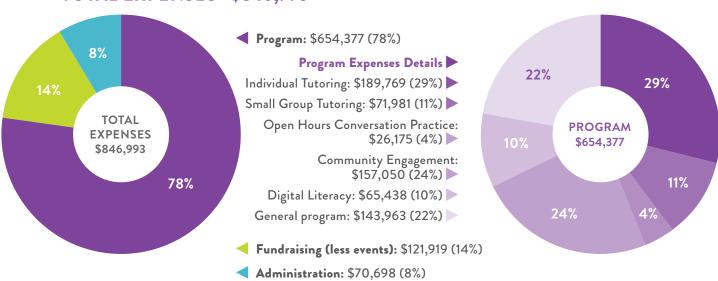


financial Snapshot:

ANNUAL OPERATIONS







NOTE: Based on unaudited financial statements for operations from 9/1/23-8/31/24. Program expense details are estimated. Welcome Home capital campaign financial information will be available when the English In Action Center for Communication is complete.

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Through its 1% Close to Home philanthropy program, Umbrella Roofing donates 1% of its gross sales annually to Roaring Fork Valley charitable organizations. For more than a decade, Umbrella Roofing has staunchly supported English In Action's mission.



Trevor Cannon

"Over 80% of my employees are Latino immigrants," says Umbrella Roofing President Trevor Cannon, "Many of them have benefitted directly from learning English with English In Action. Without immigrants, this Valley's construction industry would collapse."

Top of mind for Cannon is securing buy-in from his staff for Umbrella's giving program. He wants employees to understand how company resources are allocated and why donating 1% of total revenue matters. Cannon's choice of English In Action, whose programs directly impact the lives of many of his employees and their families, demonstrates Umbrella's commitment to its staff. Cannon hopes to expand his charitable giving program in the future and encourages other area businesses to join him in supporting English In Action.

This list represents the cumulative annual giving of donors during our 2023-24 fiscal year (9/1/23 - 8/31/24) to our program operations. Welcome Home Capital Campaign donations are listed separately.

ACF=Aspen Community Foundation

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Up to \$199 cont. Veronica Margain de Madero + Jose Madero Jossymar Marinero Rodnny Marinero Juan Martinez Nancy Martinez Sasha Mathieu Lisa McGuire Flor Menjivar Donato Mescco Donna + Tom Ward Anita Nadal Francisca Ochoa Mauricio Orellana Rafael Orozco Martha Ortega Lynda Palevsky Jose David Parada Rodriguez Pedro Pardo Carla + Eric Peltonen Angelica Pena Maria Leticia Hermosillo + Simon Perez Sara Perez Susan Philp Xavier Alexander Portillo Steve Prudden John Putnam Judith Quintanilla Kendal Reiley Rachel Richards Ellen + Rem Rieder **Enid Ritchy** Veronica Rosales + Jeff Novogratz Lucina Salcedo Maria Salcedo Raquel Salgado Wilber Sanchez Rodriguez Katie Sanders Suzanne Scheer Nancy + Raymond Schoeberlein Ruben Schwarte Carole Sharp Karen + Stephen Spicer Prudence Spink Carolyn Richard Stopol Jennifer Tempest Meighan + Al Vafa Ana Vasquez Blanca Villalobos Marcia Weese Casey + Joe White Lara + Marc Whitley Lisa Wilkinson

Honorary Gifts

In memory of Todd Arcomano Tara Arcomano

In honor of Bernardina Banuelos Jill + Eric Cohen Marcie + Robert Zlotnik

In honor of Larry Bogatz
Anonymous

In honor of capital campaign team, EIA staff + board members Lynn Nichols + Jim Gilchrist

In honor of Jill Cohen
Marcie + Robert Zlotnik

Honorary Gifts cont.

In honor of Julie Comins +
Greg Pickrell
Shinta Damayanti +
Ketut Siladarmawan
Hensley + James Peterson

In honor of Shinta Damayanti Anonymous

Lara + Lenny Beaulieu

In honor of Cintya Delgado Lisa Olsen

In honor of Sally Faison Marlane Joan Miller

In honor of David Floria
Lisa DeLosso

In honor of Dominick + Jacob Gómez Marco + Aranzazu Santana

In honor of Elaine Grossman
Anne Easterly

In honor of Hailey Guglielmo Kristen Maley

In honor of Gary Harada Julie Comins + Gregory Pickrell Catherine + Robert Harada

In honor of Patty Harris
Angelica Pena

In memory of Melissa Jankovsky Rob, Tess, Molly Jankovsky

In honor of Melony Lewis Marcie + Robert Musser

In honor of Susan + Fred Lodge Ann Yeatman Sheehan

In honor of Nancy Magoon
Jill + Jay Bernstein
Barbara Bluhm-Kaul + Don Kaul
Marilyn + Larry Fields
Julie Wooley

In memory of Peter L. Malkin Denise Hoogland

In honor of Lynn Nichols
Kay + John Callison
Julie Comins + Gregory Pickrell
Sally Faison
Jim, Carson, + Griffin Gilchrist
Ann Nichols
Nance + Ramón José López
Alexandra Yajko-Willins +
Donn Willins

In honor of Cathy O'Connell Ann O'Brien

In memory of Charles Paterson Fonda Paterson

In honor of Polly Pollard Ellen + Rem Rieder

In memory of Rosemary Prindle Caroline + Elliot Norquist

In honor of Rich Roedel

Kristen Maley

In honor of Nancy Roen Anonymous

In memory of Donna Rossetti Margaret + Lee Hogan

In honor of Kim Scheuer Shinta Damayanti + Ketut Siladarmawan Honorary Gifts cont.

In memory of Janet Schoeberlein Anonymous

Lara + Lenny Beaulieu

Beatriz Ferrufino + Raul Centeno Steve Pruden

Johnny + Jeanne Schoeberlein

In memory of Judy Schwartz
Enid Ritchy

In memory of Steve Shanzer Fonda Paterson

In honor of Dr. Gilda Sherwin Alexandra Yajko-Willins + Donn Willins

In honor of Julie Sonson Cristina Torres

In memory of Joanne Stumpf Heather + Richard Stumpf

In honor of Ana Tapia Francie Jacober

In honor of Alex Yajko-Willins + Donn Willins Julie Sonson

Please forgive any omissions or errors.

ENGLISH IN ACTION IS A WELCOMING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION THAT BELONGS TO US ALL.

Please join us again in 2025 by becoming a volunteer, a monthly donor, or joining our American Dreamer's giving circle.

ONLINE GIFTS CAN BE MADE AT

www.englishinaction.org.

onward to the NEXT 30 Years!

English In Action cannot wait to move into our vibrant new home this summer. We invite you to join us in 2025 by volunteering as a tutor, attending one of our marquis events, or making a gift to support our programs.



"My tutor is amazing and English In Action is amazing. As someone from a different country, I needed someone to talk with and be able to ask questions to. I am grateful to have this friendship. It has helped me feel less lonely and this program has been great for my language improvement."

- English In Action learner Zuzana Belohlavkova Daniels

