



A Message From The Director

Happy New Year and Kwanzaa!

We are looking forward to 2024! We look for growth, strength, and a shared belief in our mission to improve the literacy rate in Horry County!

Let's quickly review 2023.

Active Pairs		Students – Waiting		Tutors – Waiting	
2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
53	38	21	21	6	15

- We grew from having 38 Active Pairs (Students being Tutored) at the end of 2022 to **53 Active Pairs at the end of 2023**. That is a nearly **40% growth rate**.
- We ended 2023 with the same number of students on the Wait List as we had at the end of 2022 – we have **21 Students waiting for a Tutor**.
- We ended 2022 with 15 Tutors on the Wait List. We end 2023 with **6 Tutors on the Wait List**. These Tutor Volunteers will have Students to tutor because they either already have appointments or will have appointments to be paired January 2, 2024.
- We expanded into the Loris Memorial Library in December.
- We have two students from Loris being tutored at the Little River Memorial Library. Volunteers in North Myrtle Beach have agreed to tutor the students in Little River.
- One of our Tutors from Loris is tutoring in the Carolina Forest Library. We had no one for him to tutor in his area and he wanted to tutor Math.

We try our best to get students paired with Tutors as soon as possible and as close to their local library as possible. We also try to keep our Tutors at their local libraries. Sometimes our Tutors are willing to travel more to make sure the students needs are met. Thank you to all our Tutors for volunteering your time and energy for our community! Thank you to the parents and adults who show up for each of their Tutoring Sessions on time and ready to go! It takes us all to make this work! We are so grateful!

“Building a stronger community through literacy.”

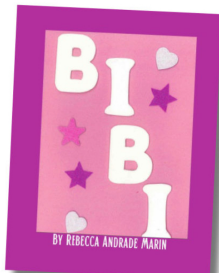
We have an incredible team, providing tutoring and those volunteers who are helping us make it all work!

We are looking forward to our next year as always! We are ready to grow and make an even bigger impact on the literacy rates in Horry County!

Happy New Year and Kwanzaa!
 Stay safe and healthy,

Dodi

One of Our Students is a Published Author!



Bibi, a book by Rebecca Marin Baca

One of our tutored students has written a book! *Bibi* is the story of a very special relationship between the Author, Rebecca, and her teddy bear - an angel who protects her and teaches her many lessons. Rebecca has written this 33-page book in both English and Spanish for readers to enjoy!



Bibi is coming soon to Amazon. Meanwhile, you can find your copy here: Lulu.com



What We Need

We are always looking for volunteers to Tutor, 1 hour, twice a week. We have students at most of the libraries in need of some help!

Where we have students waiting as of today, 12/30/23. Veronica is screening more students. This just gives you an idea of our need:

Library	Students
Carolina Forest Library	1 Student-Reading
Chapin Memorial Library	1 Student-Reading
Conway Library	9 Students- 5 for Reading, 4 for Math-up to Grade 4
Socastee Library	4 Students-Reading

We are also looking for a **Volunteer Liaisons** to share this position at the following libraries. Socastee is an immediate need!

- Socastee Library to share the position with our fabulous Tracye Watson, Volunteer Liaison, Socastee Library.
- Conway Library
- Carolina Forest Library

What is a Volunteer Liaison? This position is very important and is more flexible than Tutoring. We would prefer to have someone with a background in education. A job description follows...

What is a Volunteer Liaison?

The Volunteer Liaisons (VL) report to the Executive Director (ED). The VL meets with the Executive Director regularly to review what is happening in their library area. This person should have some teaching experience in schools, not always necessary. It is best if you live near the library you will represent.

Volunteer Liaisons are assigned at each of the libraries where we have students being tutored. Our students are children, adults, and those who can speak limited English and learning how to read English.

Their duties include:

- Check-in with the students (and parents) and our volunteers every month to see if they need anything. Ask the following questions:
 - 1. What is working?
 - 2. What needs to be changed to improve?
 - 3. How can we change it for improvement?
- Communicating with all stakeholders about upcoming events
- Taking and sending pictures of Tutors and Students, for those Students or Tutors that we have permission to take their picture when they have completed a section of their reading binder and when they complete a binder.
- Taking and sending pictures of Tutors and Students, for those Students or Tutors that we have permission to take their picture when they have completed for Math, when they pass a chapter test, post-test, or Mastery Check-up, depending on what program they are enrolled, and at the end of the binder.
- Administer the progress assessments (DIBELS) every 3-4 months for the students in that library region who are being tutored in Reading.
- Administer the short progress assessment Universal Screeners for Number Sense (USNS) for the students in that library region who are being tutored in Math.
- Check-in with the librarians to make sure we are doing our part and ask how we can help them. Build a relationship.
- Make sure there are plenty of rack cards or flyers for the library.
- Report pre- and post-test scores (Reading), chapter tests (Math) to the Executive Director as well as the Progress Reports posted on the G-drive and sent to the Executive Director.
- Volunteers and Parents will contact the VL first if there is a concern.
- Write a short summary about student progress as reported by Tutor and based on progress assessments to give to Executive Director as requested.



Student Interns

We are looking forward to working with Dr. Yun Sil Jeon and Sarah Wamsley, a Spanish major Intern, from Coastal Carolina University. Sarah will join us in the middle of January.

We have also been accepted to get a paid graduate student intern in the Summer of 2024. The paid graduate internship is through the RISE Program, sponsored by the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce and Coastal Carolina University. Dr. Pamela Martin is the Director of RISE at Coastal Carolina University. Palmetto Literacy Council will incur costs for only about one-third to one-half of the salary for this full-time, summer, student internship. RISE will help with the recruiting of this student. The student we are looking for will have some expertise or is learning about Fundraising and Marketing for Nonprofits. We really need someone to take on this charge full-time.

New Program

We are finding that we have some refugees in our community who do not speak English and may not have attended school in their home country. They need more intensive help than Horry County Adult Education can provide due to the increase of need for their classrooms.

We'll look for a program for adults just learning English and learning to read in English in addition to the English Language Learners we currently have in our program. If anyone would like to help with this effort, Dodi would appreciate the help. Of course, she is already researching programs and is open to suggestions.

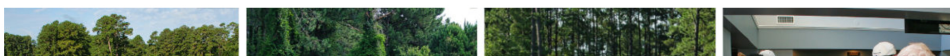


4th Annual Golf Charity Scramble Supporting Palmetto Literacy Council
Saturday, June 8, 2024, Burning Ridge Golf Course, 500 Burning Ridge Rd, Conway SC.

- 7:30 AM Check-in
- 8:30 shotgun start
- Welcome bag
- Prizes and Drawings
- Closest to the pin & Longest drive awards
- Breakfast & lunch included
- Purchase Mulligans online before check-in

This is a fun event! Lots of competition and just plain old fun! We have sponsorships available for holes, the event, and more.

→ See photos from the last tournament - [Click Here](#)





Coming Events

Volunteer **Orientation and Training**

- Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 3:00 pm, PLC Office
- Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 5:30 pm, PLC Office

Tutor Talk – Friday January 24, 2024, 10 am, PLC Office

Volunteer Liaison Meeting – Wednesday, January 24, 10 am, PLC Office

Golf Scramble Committee Meeting - Volunteers, Parents, or anyone interested in helping are welcome to attend this meeting.

- Wednesday, January 24, 11 am, PLC Office
- Check out <https://palmettoliteracy.org/events/golfevent2024>

Adult Team Spelling Bee – Look for more information in upcoming newsletters!

Our Mission:

The Palmetto Literacy Council's mission is to improve the literacy of youth and adults in our community by tutoring literacy skills for those who struggle with basic Reading, Writing and/or Math.

Donate Now!

If you've read this far, you're obviously interested in what we do. Your donation helps pay for student binders, office space, copy machines, paper, and much more. Please donate what you can today!

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