



### Student Spotlight: Dakota

Born with half a heart and told he might not keep up, Dakota refused to quit. Two years later, he earned his HSE through The Literacy Alliance.

Read Dakota's full story on [The Literacy Alliance blog](#).



### Volunteer Spotlight: Dr. GiaQuinta

Dr. GiaQuinta reflects on finding purpose, connection, and impact through Project Reads and the simple power of saying yes to volunteering.

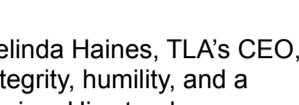
Read the full story on [The Literacy Alliance blog](#).

## Corey Porter Nominated for Foellinger Foundation Award, Celebrating Nine Years of Impact

We are proud to share that Corey Porter was nominated for the Foellinger Foundation Nonprofit Board Member Leadership Award, joining a cohort of many respected and accomplished community leaders across our region.

This award recognizes outstanding nonprofit board members who demonstrate meaningful impact in governance, leadership, financial sustainability, and program impact. It also highlights the powerful role individual board members play in shaping strong, mission-driven organizations.

While Corey did not receive the award this year, his nine years of service to The Literacy Alliance have left an enduring mark on our organization and the community we serve. His leadership has strengthened board governance, supported long-term financial stability, and kept our work focused on measurable impact for adult learners and families across Allen County. The impact of his tenure far exceeds any single recognition.



Reflecting on his service, Melinda Haines, TLA's CEO, shared, "Corey leads with integrity, humility, and a deep commitment to our mission. His steady leadership and encouragement are invaluable, and The Literacy Alliance is stronger because of his service."

Though Corey will reach his board term limit this year, his influence will continue to shape our organization for years to come. We are deeply grateful for his generosity, vision, and steadfast belief that literacy changes lives.

To view the full list of 2026 Leadership Award nominees and winners, visit the [Foellinger Foundation website](#).



2024-25 Impact Report

## The 2024-25 Impact Report Is Here

The Literacy Alliance's 2024-25 Impact Report is now available.

Inside, you will find stories of perseverance, program growth, and the real outcomes made possible through the support of our community. This year's report highlights the students working to finish high school, strengthen their English skills, and build brighter futures for themselves and their families.

You will also see the powerful impact made possible by the volunteers, donors, and partners who stand behind this work and believe in the power of literacy to transform lives.

Download the report below to see how literacy is opening doors to opportunity, strengthening our workforce, and building a stronger community for everyone.

[Download the Report](#)



Pictured are Cinbrecka Campbell, Juliana Bengs, TLA's associate director of workforce development, and Amanda Leffler from Indiana Tech.

## Speak Out: Centering Student Voices in Our Community

On February 24, two panels of local college students and professional educators gathered at the Downtown Allen County Public Library to "Speak Out" on pressing education concerns affecting students in our community.

During the student panel, two college students shared their concerns regarding the dismantling of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs at Purdue Fort Wayne. Another student addressed the growing impact of artificial intelligence on college coursework and the future workforce, expressing both uncertainty and the need for thoughtful adaptation.

A powerful moment of the evening came when The Literacy Alliance (TLA) student, Cinbrecka Campbell, courageously shared her personal educational journey.

[Read the rest of the story on the TLA blog.](#)



The Literacy Alliance and the ACPL Friends of the Library present:

## A Night At The Library

## Save the Date, Saturday, May 2, 2026

Join us for an exclusive evening inside the Main Library after dark, where stories, community, and connection take center stage. Expect great food, drinks, behind-the-scenes moments, and the kind of atmosphere you only get when the library closes to the public and opens just for you.

This one-of-a-kind night brings together community leaders and champions of literacy and workforce development, with proceeds supporting The Literacy Alliance and Friends of the Library.

More details coming soon. Trust us—you'll want to be there.

## Project Reads Book of the Month

**Leprechauns on Strike** by Jennifer Jones

The leprechauns are fed up, and this St. Patrick's Day, they're going on strike.

They are tired of glitter traps, tricky clues, and getting blamed for every green mess. So this March, they have disappeared, leaving behind a note and a whole lot of shamrock confusion.

Will the kids figure out how to bring the magic and the leprechauns back?

Filled with bouncy rhymes, playful mischief, and plenty of laughs, Leprechauns on Strike is the perfect St. Patrick's Day read for kids ages 4 to 8. A lucky pick for classroom fun, story time, and festive holiday surprises.

[Get Your Copy Here](#)



## Habitat Libraries

Since 2007, The Literacy Alliance has partnered with Habitat for Humanity to ensure that every new house becomes a home filled with stories. Through our **Habitat Libraries program**, we provide a starter family library to every new homeowner at their home dedication.

Access to quality books at home is a game changer. It allows parents to serve as reading role models and helps children foster a lifelong love of learning that extends far beyond the classroom.

[Give the Gift of Reading](#)



## Partner with The Literacy Alliance to Support Your Clients!

**Are you working with individuals who need a fresh start through education?**

The Literacy Alliance offers free high school equivalency (HSE/GED) prep, English language learning, and a dedicated GED testing center. We would love to host your team for a tour or visit your office for a brief presentation.

To coordinate a referral or a staff visit, please reach out to Mike Jackson, Outreach Coordinator, at:

[\(260\) 423-0006](tel:(260)423-0006)  
[mike@literacyalliance.org](mailto:mike@literacyalliance.org)

Together, we can empower individuals through literacy and education. Let's make a difference—one referral at a time!



## Community Resources

The Literacy Alliance's **Community Resources** section connects you to job opportunities, financial aid, continuing education, housing assistance, legal support, healthcare, and more—all in one place.

We update it regularly, so if you haven't checked it out yet (or it's been a while), now's the time! Click the button to explore resources that can make a difference today.

[Visit the Community Page](#)



Literacy Changes Lives.

**Literacy Changes Lives. Our mission is to empower people and strengthen community through education.**

### You Can Help

- [Volunteer](#)
- [Refer a Student](#)
- [Donate Today](#)

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

1005 W. Rudisill Blvd., Suite 307  
 Fort Wayne, IN 46807  
 260-426-7323 | [Email](#)

### 2023-2024 Impact Report

**Melinda Haines**  
 Chief Executive Officer

**Matt Wire**  
 Chief Marketing and Communications Officer

**Shubitha Kever**  
 Director of Operations

**Deb Dutton**  
 Project Reads Director

**Laura Woodfill**  
 Associate Director of Development

**Juliana Bengs**  
 Associate Director of Workforce Development

**Mike Jackson**  
 Outreach Coordinator

**Nikki Minarik**  
 Volunteer and Event Coordinator

**Brian Thomas**  
 Administrative Coordinator

**Drew Herendeen**  
 Administrative Coordinator

[Click here to see the entire TLA team.](#)

## 2025-26 Board of Directors

**Isabel Nuñez, Chair**  
 Purdue University Fort Wayne

**Michaela Baldwin, Vice Chair**  
 Legends Global Merchandise

**Luke Mungovan, Treasurer**  
 Lake City Bank

**Tammy Allen, Secretary**  
 The Rescue Mission

**Corey Porter, Past Chair**  
 Lincoln Financial Group

**Susan Baier**  
 Allen County Public Library

**Ben Bailey**  
 Barrett McNagny

**Kara Densmore**  
 Old National Bank

**Ron Duchovic**  
 Retired Educator

**Teresa Knoyblaus**  
 East Allen County Schools

**Fred McKissack**  
 Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

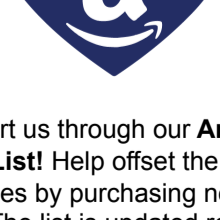
**State Representative Kyle Miller**  
 Kekianga Bookkeeping Services

**Sharon Tubbs**  
 HealthVisions Midwest of Fort Wayne

**Tim VanHouten**  
 Fort Wayne Metals

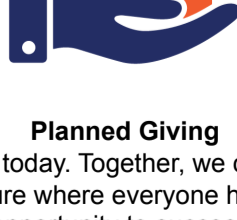
**Carla Butts, Board Intern**  
 Doden Legacy Office

**Melinda Haines, Ex Officio**  
 The Literacy Alliance



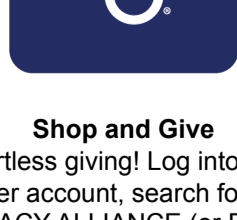
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[Planned Giving](#)



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[Log into Kroger](#)

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