

Directory of Adult Literacy Services



- **Adult Basic Education**
- **English as a Second Language (ESL)**
- **Family Literacy**
- **Literacy Tutoring Services**
- **Workforce Development**

PREPARED BY

**Adult Literacy Collaborative (ALC)
of Kalamazoo County/**

420 E. Alcott Street, Suite 400
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

PH: 269-382-0490 Ext. 222

www.kalamazooliteracy.org

kalamazooliteracycouncil

Adult Literacy Collaborative (ALC) of Kalamazoo County

Overview

The Adult Literacy Collaborative of Kalamazoo County (ALC) is a group of adult education, workforce development and literacy agencies that are working to create a conduit for providing comprehensive adult literacy services by establishing a central point for referring services, developing common initiatives, and providing support to local agencies that further the cause of adult literacy.

This Directory of Adult Literacy Services provides information to help refer those seeking services to local agencies that meet their needs according to age of population served, schedule, location, personal goals, and services offered. It also provides information regarding Community Literacy Centers, which provide tutoring services on a walk-in basis during scheduled hours throughout the community.

The ALC also provides navigation services to assist adult learners with finding resources to further assist them as they work to grow their literacy skills by providing information about local support for things such as transportation, vision and hearing screening, and employment services.

The ALC serves as the Adult Learning Action Network of The Learning Network of Greater Kalamazoo – a dynamic collaboration of people and organizations committed to transforming how, and how well, we prepare everyone who lives in Kalamazoo County — from infants to senior citizens — for lifelong success. The ALC meets the last Monday of each month from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. at Goodwill Industries, 420 E. Alcott St., Kalamazoo, or virtually, and provides a forum for shaping common goals for adult literacy providers. It serves as the venue for determining adult literacy priorities, identifying and expanding resources, and aligning services and programs to better serve community members.

Pursuit of the goal of having a fully literate community is more critical now than ever. In Kalamazoo County, **over 25,000 people or 13% of adults cannot read a simple story to a child, an intersection on a map, a prescription label, or total purchases on a customer receipt.** Children whose parents are functionally illiterate are twice as likely as their peers to be functionally illiterate. Helping adults improve their basic literacy skills has a direct and measurable impact on both the education and quality of life of their children. Moreover, for families to take full advantage of the Kalamazoo Promise or more confidently support their children's education, they must be able to model reading and literacy at home.

The ALC invites you to support adult learning in our community.

For more information contact,

Michael D. Evans

Executive Director
Kalamazoo Literacy Council
420 E. Alcott Street, Suite 400
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
Phone: (269) 382-0490 Ext. 222
Email: mevans@goodwillswmi.org

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#EveryoneNeedsToRead

Adult Learner Support Services

Getting Started with One on One Adult Literacy Tutoring

An adult may contact the Kalamazoo Literacy Council (KLC) to learn more about one on one tutoring services. Each individual schedules an initial meeting time for approximately two hours to complete a reading assessment. This helps volunteers determine the best starting place within the series of workbooks from which it tutors. These assessments may be conducted virtually. To schedule an assessment, call the KLC at (269) 382-0490 Ext. 222.

Adult Learning Services Navigation

Adult Learning Services Navigators provide individual guidance to adults who are seeking literacy services. Adults may call the navigator directly for information, or to schedule an appointment. To contact the Adult Learning Services Navigator, call (269) 849-9396.

The Adult Learning Services Navigator can assist individuals by providing information on obtaining or accessing services such as assessments, vision care, bus tokens, and other services that may be needed to help them reach their learning goals.

A full listing of community resources can also be found by visiting: www.gryphon.org, or by calling 2-1-1 the 24-hour HELP-Line. If dialing 211 does not work from your cellular phone, dial 269-381-4357.

Support Services

There are a variety of support services available to help an adult learner be more prepared for instruction or to further their educational goals.

Education Assessments – TABE, CASAS, Other: These assessments are used to measure grade level equivalent in reading, writing, math, etc.

Employment Assistance – Resume Preparation, Job Search: Many agencies provide employment assistance, such as resume preparation and job search recommendations.

Student Portfolio: Many agencies provide adult learners with a student portfolio to help organize their academic, employment, and personal documents. These portfolios include a flash drive to store these documents electronically.

Student Learning Plan: The portfolio also includes the STEPS Adult Learning Plan – a common learning plan that helps to coordinate instruction, set academic goals, and keep a track of progress.

Transportation Assistance – Bus Tokens, Gas Cards: Many agencies provide transportation assistance in the form of bus tokens.

For more information about these and other supports, please call the Adult Learning Services Navigator at (269) 849-9396.

Directory of Services

Quick Guide

Adult Education

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Kalamazoo Adult Education
Goodwill Industries of SWMI
Kalamazoo Literacy Council

English as a Second Language

EI Concilio
Kalamazoo Adult Education
Kalamazoo Literacy Council

Employment Services

Michigan Works!
Youth Opportunities Unlimited
Urban Alliance
Kalamazoo Literacy Council

Youth Services

YOU
McGinnis Reading Center
EI Concilio
Specialized Language Development Center

Family Services

McGinnis Reading Center
EI Concilio
Kalamazoo Literacy Council

Comstock Public Schools - Compass High School & Adult Education 3010 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Service(s): High School Diploma, GED, online curriculum,

Service Population: Adults 18 and over

A student who is not a resident of the Comstock Public School District, a resident of any other Kalamazoo County School District and age 16 on or before September 1st of the school year is eligible for participation in the Compass program without a Waiver from the district of residence.

Assessment Tool(s): TABE

Organization Type: School, community-based

Program/Service Description:

If you have previously dropped out of school or had to take a break due to outside circumstances, this program might be your opportunity to finish your schooling. We offer high school diploma track and GED. Call us today at 250-89390

Michele Coash

Phone: 269-250-8930

Email: Coashm@comstockps.org

Website: <http://www.comstockps.org/Schools/compass>

McGinnis Reading Center and Clinic, Western Michigan University

1908 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Services: One on one tutoring, group tutoring/classes, family literacy, preschool literacy

Service Population: Pre K-12, Families

Assessment Tools: Qualitative Reading Inventory, 5th Edition (QRI-5), CAP

Organization Type: University/College

Program/Service Description:

Our reading center provides literacy support and/or enrichment activities and experiences for all types of learners.

- Assists individuals in improving their reading, writing, and spelling skills.
- Read to children, and promote involvement in children's education.
- Tutors promote literacy in traditional and nontraditional ways.
- When working with families, tutors use multigenerational approaches to literacy development.

Elizabeth Isidro, Director

Phone: 269-387-1721

Email: elizabeth.isidro@wmich.edu

Website: wmich.edu/readingcenter

Goodwill Industries of Southwestern Michigan

420 E. Alcott Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Services: One on one tutoring, group tutoring/classes, GED

Service Population: Adults age 20 and up.

Assessment Tools: TABE

Organization Type: Community-based

Program/Service Description:

Goodwill's Literacy Services, in partnership with Kalamazoo Public Schools and the Kalamazoo Literacy Council, provides preparation for the GED in both small groups, and in one on one formats. Students must be at least 20 years old to participate in classes, as well as go through an orientation and entrance testing. After completion of testing, students have a customized learning plan developed to assist in laying down the foundation for their successful completion of the GED.

Kym Hollars, Adult Education and Training Manager

Phone: 269-382-0490 Ext. 287

Email: khollars@goodwillswmi.org

Website: www.goodwillswmi.org

El Concilio

930 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Service: ESL, GED, Individual Tutoring, Group Tutoring, Family Literacy, Translation, Interpretation, DACA/Residency, Immigrant Services, Workplace Discrimination, Resource Center

Service Population: K-12, adults 18 and over, families, early childhood, Latinos/Hispanics, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), immigrants

Organization Type: Community-based

Program/Service Description:

We help anyone in the community with various different cases and connect the community with resources that help empower the individual/families.

Nathaly Olavarria or Adrian Vazquez

Phone: 269-385-6279

Email: elconcilio@elconciliokzoo.org

Website: www.elconciliokzoo.org

Kalamazoo Adult Education

714 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Services: GED, Highschool Diploma, One on one tutoring, Group tutoring/classes, ESL/English Literacy/Civic, Adult Basic Education, improving literacy, register to vote, Family Literacy, Secure and Retain Employment,

Service Population: Adults 18 and over, Families

Assessment Tools: TABE, CASAS

Organization Type: Community-based, school

Program/Service Description:

Kalamazoo Adult Education (KAE) provides instruction for adults who seek to improve skills in reading, math and English (Adult Basic Education). Students in this program work at their own pace using a variety of instructional tools and methods including contextualized learning and learning styles.

KAE students can also elect to prepare for the GED test. Students are placed in individual programs to ready themselves for the GED's five subject tests.

A third component is English Literacy-Civic (ELC). Students in these classes are from all over the world. They seek to improve their communication skills in the English language and learn to navigate through American society. ESL learners are also able to complete job certification along with their GED.

All students have post-graduation transition services available to them. All GED graduates are required to complete paperwork to transition them from their educational goal to employment, apprentice programs, or college.

Robin Greymountain, KAE Leader & Homeless Liaison

Phone: 269-337-0063

Email: greymountainrc@kalamazoopublicschools.net

Website: kalamazoopublicschools.com

Kalamazoo Literacy Council

420 E. Alcott Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Services: One on one tutoring, group tutoring/classes, Parent Literacy, Health Literacy, English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, GED prep, JOBS preparedness

Service Population: Adults ages 18 and over

Assessment Tools: TABE, Laubach, CASAS

Organization Type: Community-based

Program/Service Description:

The Kalamazoo Literacy Council (KLC) is a nonprofit organization committed to enhancing the lives of adults by improving their reading, writing, spelling and comprehension skills. The organization provides tutor training for qualified volunteers in the Laubach Method, a phonetic system, and provides one on one services and classes to adults. It offers free tutoring, writing classes, computer classes, JOBS classes, parent literacy, health literacy, English as a Second Language (ESL), and free educational materials to adults who have been evaluated by the KLC through a placement assessment.

The KLC was founded in 1974 and is the only organization in Kalamazoo County with the exclusive purpose of providing free basic literacy instruction to adults. For nearly 50 years the organization has been the leading voice for the cause of adult literacy, mobilizing and training volunteer tutors to teach struggling adult readers throughout the county.

The KLC is the facilitating agency for the Adult Literacy Collaborative of Kalamazoo County, which brings together several educational and literacy agencies in the county to further the cause of adult literacy. The ALC serves as the Adult Learning Action Network for the Learning Network of Greater Kalamazoo.

Michael D. Evans, Executive Director
Phone: 269-382-0490 Ext. 222
Email: mevans@kalamazooliteracy.org
Website: www.kalamazooliteracy.org

Kalamazoo Public Library - Ready to Read 315 S. Rose St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Services: Family Literacy, Early Childhood
Service Population: Families with children aged birth to five years. Adults in need of literacy services are referred to the Kalamazoo Literacy Council
Organization Type: Library

Program/Service Description:

Ready to Read encourages parents to read aloud to their children, beginning at birth, to help prepare them for learning to read. KPL leads this community collaboration of medical practices, human services agencies, preschool classrooms, and nonprofit organizations.

Phone: 269-553-7800
Website: kpl.gov

SLD Read 5250 Lovers Lane, Suite LL100, Kalamazoo, MI 49002

Services: One to one tutoring, family literacy
Service Population: Early childhood, K-12, adults 18 and over
Assessment Tools: Woodcock Johnson, Comprehensive Test of Phonological Processing, Phonics Fundamentals Inventory
Organization Type: Community-based

Program/Service Description:

SLD Read's vision is a community, working together for literacy that empowers all individuals to achieve their full potential. To reach this vision, we: help individuals with dyslexia, learning differences, and other reading challenges to develop lifelong language skills through our multisensory program; assist educators to identify learning challenges and provide training and techniques to enhance their reading curriculum; and, increase community awareness and understanding of literacy issues.

Our sliding scale tuition program, based on family size and income, helps to make our services available to a larger group of students. Unlike physical disabilities where services are covered by medical insurance, treatment for dyslexia or other learning challenges are not covered through insurance. Through this program, a student works with a tutor on a one-to-one basis, two to three times per week.

Carol McGlenn
Phone: 269-303-6009
Email: cmcglenn@sldread.org
Website: www.sldread.org

Urban Alliance

1009 East Stockbridge Ave Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Services: Employment Readiness, Obtain Driver's License, Obtain higher quality jobs with higher wages, Community engagement,

Service Population: Adults 18 and over

Assessment Tools: Other

Organization Type: Community-based

Program/Service Description:

Momentum employment is an economic development engine helping unemployed and underemployed community members to secure employment through job skills, entrepreneurship support, and networking connections through our business partners.

Phone: 269-348-0978

Email: info@uainc.org

Website: www.urbanalliancekalamazoo.org

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.)

422 E. South St. (Youth), Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Services: Individual Tutoring, GED, Job Preparedness

Service Population: Youth ages 14-24

Assessment Tool(s): CASAS

Organization Type: Community-based, School

Program/Service Description:

YOU is a vital piece of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA), helping individuals complete their education, find employment and thrive in the community. The services provided by YOU have strengthened individuals to improve their communities through academic enrichment, workforce readiness, and social skills development while empowering them to become critical thinkers, problem solvers, graduates and leaders.

Career coaching services include one-on-one coaching, paid internships, talent tours, job placement assistance, on-the-job training, job shadows, and paid occupational training.

Paige Daniels

Phone: (269) 775-1660

Email: paige.daniels@kresa.org

Website: <https://www.kresa.org/YOU>

Michigan Works!

1601 S. Burdick St. Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Services: Job Preparedness, Barrier Removal

Service Population: Adults 18 and over

Organization Type: Community-based

Program/Service Description:

Michigan Works! offers multiple educational and pre-employment services such as:

- One on one and group job coaching
- Access to employers
- Job fairs
- Work Keys/Key Train – Skills Assessment
- Career development
- Occupational and technical training
- Work experience
- Job search assistance (including Michigan Talent Connect)
- Job Preparation Assistance
- Supportive Services – Financial and resource support

Phone: (269) 383-2536

Website: michiganworkssouthwest.org

Adult Proficiency in Literacy Referral Guide

Levels of Reading Proficiency

LEVEL	GLE	DESCRIPTION
Level 1	0 – 3.9	Cannot read well enough to fill out an application, read a food label, locate an intersection on a map, calculate the total cost of purchases from and order form or read a simple story to a child. Beginning level in ABE literacy proficiency.
Level 2	4 – 5.9	Usually can perform more complex task such as comparing, contrasting or integrating pieces of information but usually not higher-level reading and problem-solving skills. Beginning level in ABE proficiency.
Level 3	6 – 8.9	Usually can perform the same type of more complex tasks on increasingly lengthy and dense texts and documents. Low Intermediate ABE proficiency. High Intermediate ABE proficiency.
Level 4	9 – 10.9	Usually can perform the same type of more complex tasks on increasingly lengthy and dense texts and documents. Low ASE proficiency.
Level 5	11 – 12.9	Usually can perform the same type of more complex tasks on increasingly lengthy and dense texts and documents. High ASE proficiency.

Level 1 GLE 0-6.9

Adults

Kalamazoo Literacy Council

Youth

McGinnis Reading Center
SLD Read

Level 2 - 5 GLE 4 – 5.9, 11 – 12.9

Adults

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El Concilio
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Youth

KRESA Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU)
McGinnis Reading Center