

# 2022

## ANNUAL REPORT

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**READ**  
OTTAWA

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*Our mission is to provide adults who live in or near Ottawa County with an opportunity to improve and transform their lives by strengthening their reading and language fluency.*

# LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

2022 brought many positive changes to READ Ottawa. READ Ottawa officially expanded into Holland/Zeeland to serve more adults while maintaining services in Northwest Ottawa County. Many milestones were reached in support of our learners in addition to broadening our range of services with educational resources to support both tutors and learners in their goals. We truly could not have done this work without our volunteer tutors. Their investment of time makes the 1:1 learning model work. READ Ottawa is looking forward to serving more adults in 2023 and the possibilities that we can bring to adult learners across all of Ottawa County.



**STORMIE DRAKE**  
Executive Director



**JEFF PARRIOTT**  
Board President

*"READ improved my reading and writing skills, helped me pass my driving test, become a U.S. citizen, and get better paying jobs."*

- Hamid, READ Ottawa Learner

*"She has embraced this opportunity to study and learn, an activity she was not allowed to do in Afghanistan. I love our time together; she has become a good friend and my life has been enriched by our time together."*

- Connie, READ Ottawa Tutor

*"Enrolling new learners is one of the most rewarding jobs. I get to meet all different kinds of people that have come to a place where they are trying to improve their reading or English skills as an adult -- it is no small feat and I am constantly impressed and moved by the learners, the circumstances they have overcome, and their willingness to work hard to learn."*

- Jill, READ Ottawa Pair Coordinator - Holland/Zeeland

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeffrey Parriott, President  
Susan Lowe, Secretary  
Sheryl Zajechowski, Treasurer  
Lori Lee  
Maggie McKeithan  
Angel Mendiola  
Jacob Ryan  
Sara TePastte  
Paul Martin (*former*)  
Michelle Moore (*former*)  
Tracy Riley (*former*)  
Heather Wood-Gramza (*former*)

## STAFF

### **Stormie Drake**

Executive Director

### **Lynn Groothuis**

Training Coordinator

### **Jill Roof**

Pair Coordinator

### **Marisol Stork**

Pair Coordinator

## VOLUNTEER SUPPORT STAFF

### **Kate Ford**

Social Media Specialist

### **Lori Koons**

Accountant

### **Val Martin**

Program Coordinator

### **Marilyn Reichardt**

Assessment Coordinator

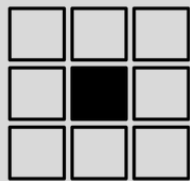
### **Renate Watters**

Assessment Coordinator

### **Carol Wilhelm**

Tutor Training Developer

**We appreciate**  
our Ottawa County libraries for  
supplying space and resources  
that make our mission a reality.  
Thank you!



Howard Miller Public Library



Spring Lake District Library

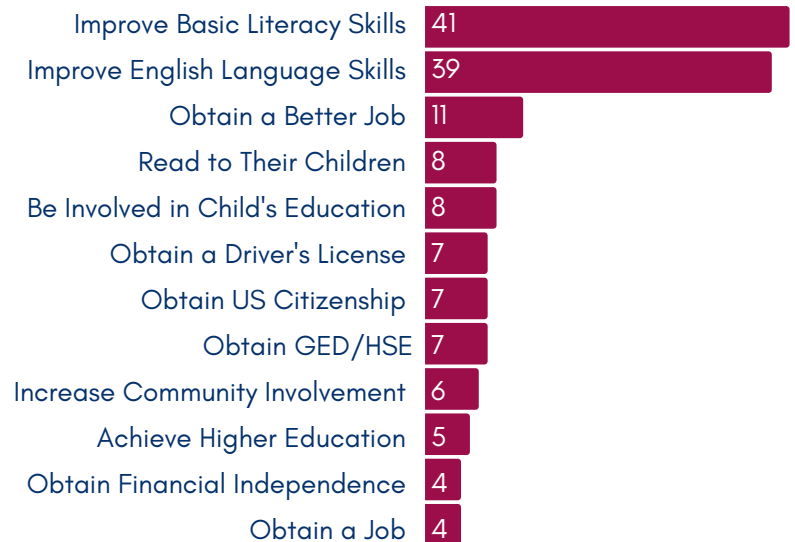
# PROGRAM SUMMARY

## LEARNER DATA

Total Learners Enrolled	66
NEW Learners Enrolled	43
Total Pairs Matched	51
Total ESL Learners	55
Total ABE Learners	11



## LEARNER ACTIVE GOALS



## LEARNER OBTAINED OUTCOMES



## TUTOR DATA

Total Tutors	85
Tutors Trained	45
Total Tutoring Sessions	809
Total Tutor Service Hours	2,044



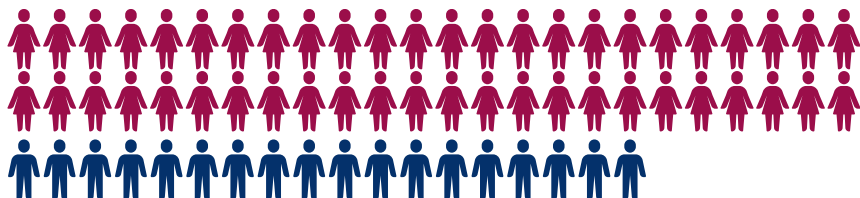
**THANK YOU** to our tutors and volunteers!

## 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Expanded to **Holland/Zeland**
- Held **5 Tutor Trainings**
- Gifted **177 coupons** for appreciation efforts
- Had our largest attended tutor training, **23 tutors** were trained
- Updated website** - translated in over **100 languages**
- New **English/Spanish marketing materials**
- Added a **Social Media Specialist** to our volunteer support team

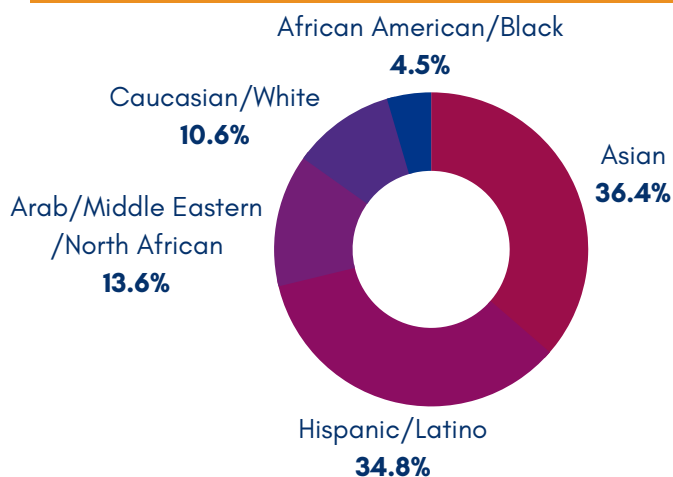
# PROGRAM DEMOGRAPHICS

## GENDER

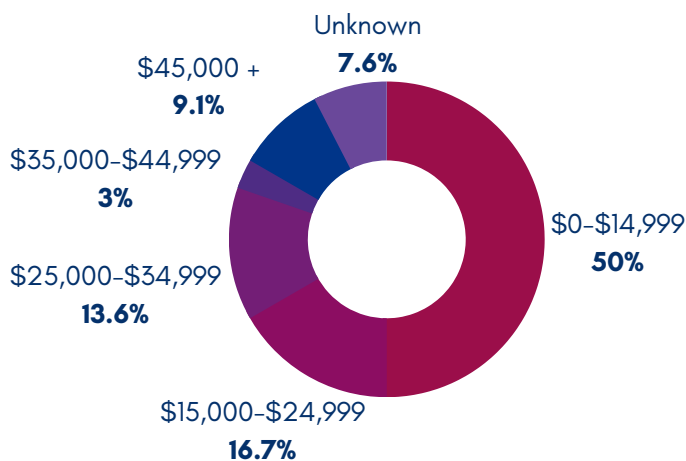


**72.7%** identified as female/woman  
**27.3%** identified as male/man

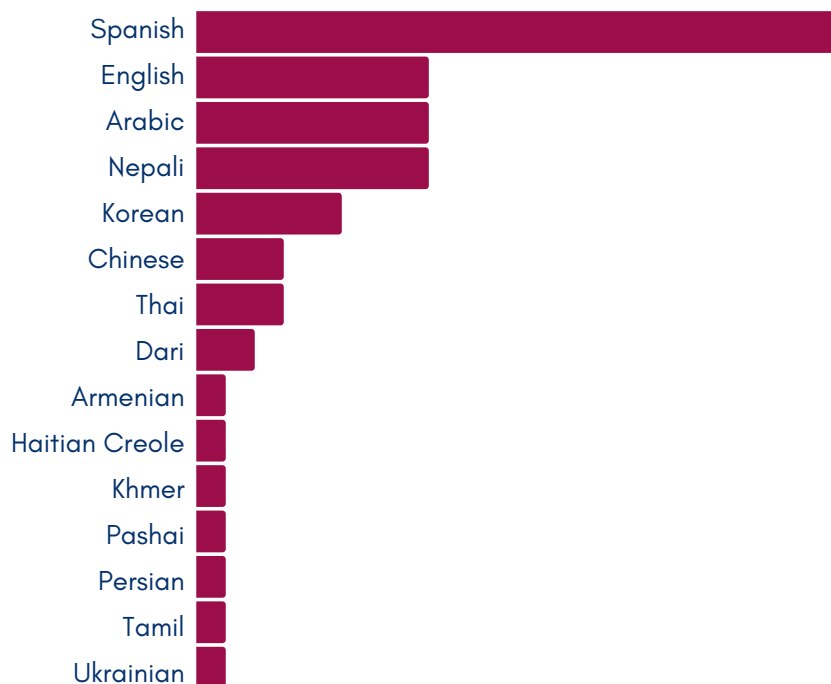
## RACE / ETHNICITY



## ANNUAL INCOME



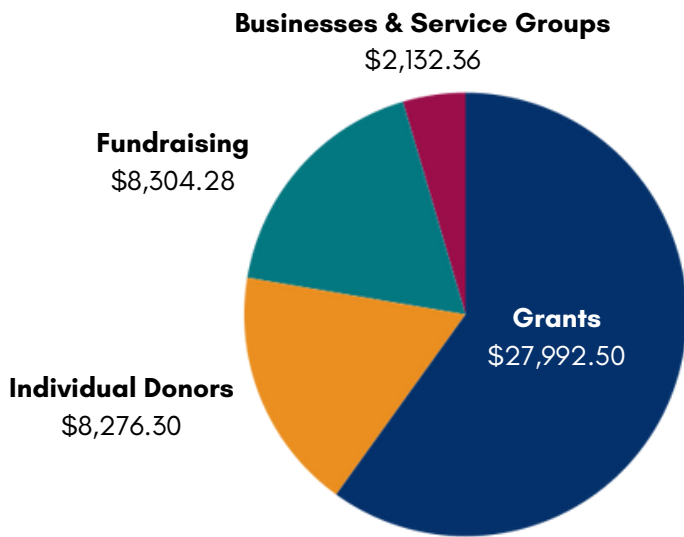
## NATIVE LANGUAGES



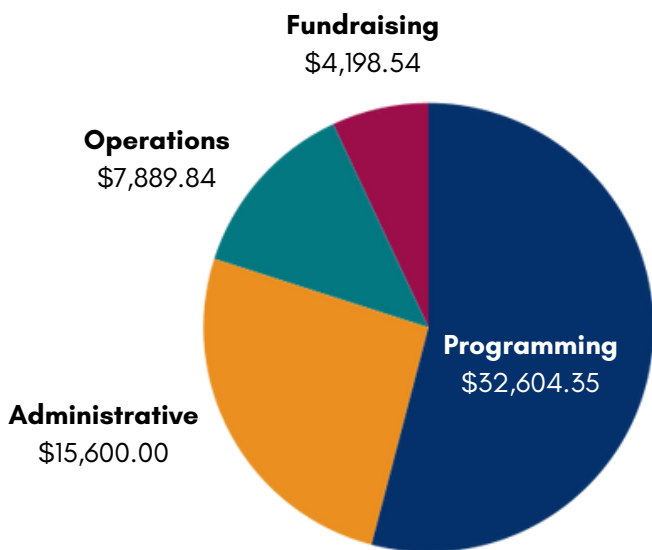
Most of READ Ottawa's program participants are considered to be low-income or poverty level. For many immigrants and refugees, they want to work, but are unable to do so until they can obtain a work visa. On average, it takes U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) 3-6 months to process a work visa application. Other individuals are stay-at-home parents to alleviate the cost of childcare on the family.



READ Ottawa was finally able to act on our promise to expand to Holland/Zeeland in 2022. Much of the funding that was received in 2020-2021 for the expansion was reserved for 2022 in order to expand on our programming and operations to serve residents of the Holland area. In 2022, READ Ottawa increased its annual budget and raised more than we ever have before in history to meet the needs of adult learners!



**REVENUE: \$47,750.44**



**EXPENSES: \$60,292.73**

On behalf of everyone at READ Ottawa, we appreciate the support and passion from each of you. **THANK YOU** to our donors for their generous contributions.

Individuals

- |                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Katie Appold                 | Kathryn Lindstrom         |
| Tom & Joanne Baetens         | Steve & Susan Lowe        |
| Shirley Batchelder           | Paul & Val Martin         |
| Ronald & Nancy Bauer         | Vicki Mast                |
| John & Barbara Bigler        | Cari & Michael Marzolf    |
| Sarah Boetsma                | Jerry & Paula McDowell    |
| Richard & Carolyn Bullington | Alexa McGuinness          |
| David & Diane Burdette       | Maggie McKeithan          |
| John & Joanne Clickner       | Angel Mendiola            |
| Richard & Gay Cole           | Joanna Middleditch        |
| Nancy Collins                | Sherry Mitchell           |
| Bobbi Currier                | Joe & Barb Mockus         |
| Christie Custer              | John & Kathryn Nash       |
| Sheila Dettloff              | Amy & Mike O'Brien        |
| Royetta Doe                  | Gayle Ann Parmelee        |
| Dax & Stormie Drake          | Eunice Petersen           |
| Dennis & Barb Dryer          | Bruce & Marilyn Reichardt |
| Deborah DuMez                | Tracy Riley               |
| Walter Elliott               | Gary & Pennie Robertson   |
| Matt & Hannah Everett        | Jill Roof                 |
| Stan & Nancy Fortuna         | Bob & Bobbi Sabine        |
| Jerry & Linda Gibbs          | Christian & Ruth Sorensen |
| Jennifer Griffith            | Lorelle & William Sybsema |
| John & Lynn Groothuis        | Judy Theune               |
| Jean Grossnickle             | Bob Thompson              |
| John Harbeck                 | Anthony & Monica Verplank |
| Mary Hardy                   | Renate Watters            |
| Joan Hoffman                 | Connie Widdis             |
| Neil & Jennifer Jacobs       | Nancy & Warren Wildeman   |
| Kathryn Kampen               | Carol Wilhelm             |
| Beth LaBeff                  | Sheryl Zajechowski        |
| Kelly Larson                 | Bob & Rosemary Zitta      |

Businesses

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Abbit Management Corp | Edward Jones Investments    |
| Anna's House          | Glenn Morris & Associates   |
| Active Manufacturing  | Jumpin' Java                |
| Amazon                | Kilwin's                    |
| Arturo's Tacos        | Lemon Creek Winery          |
| Bally Sports          | Mancino's                   |
| Bluestocking Bookshop | Morning Star Cafe           |
| The Book Cellar       | Patricia's Chocolate LLC    |
| The Bookman           | Pliant Plastics Corporation |
| Brilliance Publishing | Shape Corporation           |
| Carter Manufacturing  | Sweet Temptations           |
| D Baker & Son Lumber  | Uline                       |

Grants

- Community Foundation of Holland/Zeeland
- Dollar General Literacy Fund Grand Haven Area
- Community Foundation Holland
- Holland Young Professionals
- ProLiteracy Opportunity Fund

Service Groups

- United Methodist Church of the Dunes
- Fraternal Order of Eagles 925
- Network for Good
- United Way of Ottawa & Allegan