



ANNUAL REPORT

2023- 2024



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June 2024 - Mario and his JCLC tutor, Ken, posing with his US citizenship certificate.



Community Programs

Community learners totaled 121 with over half reaching a learning or workplace goal. This included S.N. who earned a high school credential shortly after becoming a first-time parent. Sixteen (16) GED and GED Ready tests were taken this year by community participants.

Mario worked toward citizenship for over a year. He attended his Oath Ceremony in June of 2024. We expect to welcome more new citizens in the coming year.

Justice-involved Program

Established partnerships, flexible staff, and creative use of resources allowed instruction to continue through the jail renovations. Jail capacity was temporarily reduced and access to learners was limited.

A total of 25 individuals participated in the program. Two GED/HSED credentials and seven OSHA -10 workplace certificates were earned. A total of 11 MyGED accounts were opened, and 17 official GED/GED Ready tests were taken. Everyone involved with the program is looking forward to the renovated spaces.

Community Outreach

JCLC works with our partners to ensure comprehensive community support for early literacy. JCLC actively works with other organizations to leverage available resources effectively and establish referral pathways to available resources.

Expectant parents received books and a message about the importance of early literacy at the community baby showers. This message and a digital book subscription was also shared with families of justice-involved population, families with children enrolled in Head Start, and Watertown Family Connections clients. You will find JCLC advocating for literacy at community events where families with children are gathered.

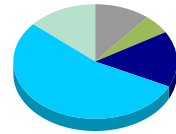


May 2024 - WAICU intern, Taylor Wruck at the Community Baby Shower, Watertown, WI

Participants by Age Group

The majority of JCLC clients fall into the 25-44 age group. Clients in the 19-24 age group typically request GED/HSED services. The majority of those in the 25-44 age group participate in ESL classes or citizenship preparation.

Participant by Age Group

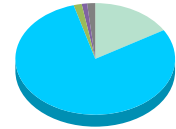


● N/A ● >60 ● 45-59 ● 25-44 ● 19-24

Participants by Ethnicity

Ethnicity is self-reported and limited to the 5 choices under the federal grant reporting. The majority of JCLC clients are foreign born and come from South and Central American countries.

Participant by Ethnicity

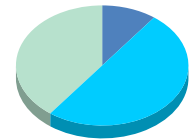


● White / US Caucassian ● Hispanic or Latino ● Black or African American ● 2 more

Participants by Gender

The majority of JCLC clients are male. However, the total number includes both community and justice-involved populations. In 2023-2024, only one female participant was served from the justice-involved population. Female community participants enroll at a twice the rate of males. Female community participants are also twice as likely to log more than 12 hours of instruction than their male counterparts.

Participants by Gender



● Not shared ● Male ● Female

Participants by Employment and Education

Nearly 48% of JCLC participants are employed. All participants from the justice-involved population are recorded as *Not in the Labor Market*. Community participants report being employed or not in the labor market at a rate of 66% (80 of 121 participants).

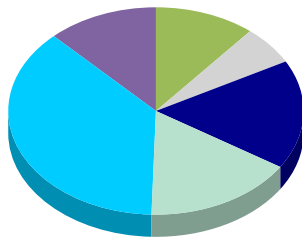
A little more than 50% of participants have less than a high school education or do not indicate their experience with formal education. In turn, just a less than 50% have a high school diploma or more formal education.

JCLC Funding

JCLC continues to draw upon diverse funding sources. Community programming is funded by grants, foundation support, fundraising, United Way, contract for services, and private donations. Federal and county funds are used to serve the justice-involved population.

JCLC relies upon the generosity of community volunteers to provide instruction and assist behind the scenes. We appreciate our volunteer board members, instructors, tutors, and community advocates. Volunteers also help with special projects.

JCLC Funding 2023-2024



● United Way ● Foundations/Grants ● Fundraising ● Contracted Services ● Federal Govt. ● County Govt.





June 2024 - Technology strengthens classroom engagement

A Message from the Director

Reflecting on the past year, the JCLC team is filled with admiration for the remarkable achievements of program participants. The daily challenges of our work fade in comparison to the determination shown by individuals learning English, earning their high school diplomas, or becoming U.S. citizens. These life-changing milestones were made possible thanks to the generous contributions of time, talent, and financial support from organizations and individuals right here in Jefferson County. This year's program outcomes are truly inspiring and highlight the real impact made when we work together.

JCLC outreach efforts expanded significantly. Our presence at local events, resource fairs, and networking events have helped us connect with more learners, volunteers, and partners across the community.

Looking ahead to 2024-2025, our goals are to deepen our community presence by increasing learner enrollment, expanding volunteer engagement, and enhancing program offerings to meet evolving literacy needs. Together, we will continue building a brighter future for Jefferson County through the power of literacy.

Patricia Waters

Executive Director, JCLC

JCLC Board of Directors

Berta Griffin
Retired Director Jefferson County
Head Start

Melissa Anderson
Director Jefferson Public Library

Ralph Lassa
Wealth Management Advisor
Premier Bank

Tara Williams
Instructional Designer, Founder
Pronto Spanish

Molly Prater
Community Health Program
Coordinator - Fort Healthcare

Jessica Krause
School District of Jefferson - ESL

Alexis Mercado
Referral & Outreach Coordinator
Rock River Community Clinic

146

Clients participated in
JCLC services

37

Official GED and GED
Ready tests taken

59

gains of 2 or more
levels on a
standardized test,
academic or workplace
credential earned.