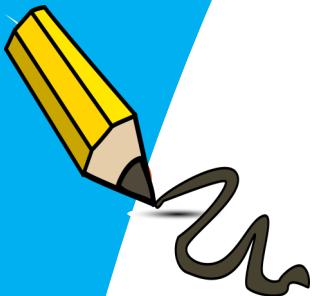


January 2021



Tutor Tips

A monthly publication of the Moore County Literacy Council
Southern Pines, North Carolina



Dear Tutors, volunteers,
and lovers of literacy,

Welcome 2021! I share with many of you the anticipation of healing and hope that the new year brings! A famous saying goes something like this: "you can't appreciate the sunshine if there are no rainy days. Covid may have closed our office for a few months, but it didn't close down our passion for improving and growing the Adult Literacy program! In fact, we jumped right in with a total review of the current program and, after months of going back and forth, we made many adjustments, tweaks, and re-inventions to the program. So in that spirit, and with the excitement of the new year in front of us, I'd like to make this issue a "**year in review**". In order to fully understand the adjustments we've made, you need to know what was going on behind the scenes throughout 2020. **PLEASE READ ON!**

Terry's leaving? Now what! In April, Terry Taylor, the eyes and ears of Adult Literacy, announced that she was moving to Germany with her family. Terry, having seen first-hand how the program had grown, very much advocated for a person to take over the program who could focus solely on Adult Literacy. The hours for the position were increased from 17 to 30 hours a week. Introducing: Susan!

You want a WHAT? In the spring, Stuart, our Executive Director, asked that we carry out a program review to look at every facet of the Adult Literacy program- from quantitative data to the curriculums we used to hours of operation. Heather made the final edits in November, and submitted a forty-something page document that represented months of reflection and review. The process prompted us to ask tough questions about the Adult Literacy program and then seek answers that not only aligned with our mission statement, but would be beneficial to our students, our tutors, and the program as a whole. It required us to have a "growth mindset" and consider things outside of our comfort zone (Zoom tutoring!), and look at ways we could "grow" our program without losing the integrity of the special nurturing community resource that we pride ourselves in being.

Welcome Aboard! Two opportunities presented themselves in 2020. The first was the addition of Diane Young as our Project Assistant in July. She usually works 9:00am-1:00pm and her day-to-day office support has been a blessing. The second addition was a student intern in September, Lauren Mullen, who is pursuing a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction through Liberty University. The timing could not have been better. We wasted no time in throwing Lauren into the program review process, (*Continued next page...*)

and she was instrumental in contacting area literacy councils, researching new ideas, and helping to plan and implement new literacy courses for this spring and beyond. You will continue to see her around a few times a week, mainly in the evenings!

More buddies, or Moore Buddies? Both! Throughout 2020, Stuart (our Executive Director) and Joyce Clevenger, Executive Director of Moore Buddies Mentoring, were considering a merger of the two organizations, and on January 1, 2021, it happened! Although these two programs provide different types of services, together they offer families a more complete assistance platform. How will that change Adult Literacy and the Moore County Literacy Council in general? It won't. Both programs will exist under the umbrella of **The Care Group, Inc.** However, each agency will continue to operate as it had before under its existing name. Since The Pilot wrote a great article about the merger, I won't go on and on, but click the link below to get all the details:

<https://mcliteracy.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Pilot.Moore-Buddies-MCLC-Merger-Jan-2020.pdf>

New Year, New Classes! In October, we hosted a topic specific "talk class" for our ESL students. It was a hit! We had another in November, and hopefully we will be able to turn it into a monthly or bi-monthly occurrence for 2021. You will also start to hear more about other class offerings for our students. Digital Literacy (an intro to computers class), a Job Seekers course (reading and understanding a job application, interviewing skills), and a Health Literacy class (fancy "doctor's office words" and what they mean). These are hands-on full blown literacy classes that give students the literacy skills they need to know now. And yes, we would LOVE for you to help with one or two! Just call!

So, as you can see, we were closed for six months, but our minds were OPEN and hard at work! As the world returns to normal (whenever that may be) we hope to be a stronger presence in the community we serve, whether it's participating in a local parade or setting up a booth at a community fair or function.

And of course, we wouldn't be here today, or making these big plans for tomorrow, without our volunteers! You are the reason we remain successful in this community after 30+ years! Thank you for your dedication, and thank you for moving forward with us!

~Until next month, Susan

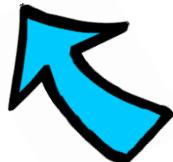


**Quarterly Progress Reports are
DUE NOW!**

January's Synonyms:

Always=forever

Stop=Quit



Let's switch to
SYNONYMS
for awhile!

*Writing prompt
for January.....*

SNOW



Remember!

We Check temps at the door!

We clean surfaces and spray disinfectant routinely!

If you are sick or think you have been “exposed”, take the day off!



A BIG welcome to our new volunteers!

Christina Coffman

Bonnie Smith

Pam Hartsell

Chuck Maness

Punch Cards are here!

Starting in **January**, your student will receive a **PUNCH CARD**! They will get a “punch” for every tutoring session they attend for 3rd quarter! If they have **TEN** punches at the end of the quarter, their card goes in the hat for a grand prize drawing!



Check your sign-in sheet! Zoom tutoring? CALL ME!