

# Life Goals *achieved!* at Blue Ridge Literacy

July 1, 2020– June 30, 2021

In the 20-21 Fiscal Year, Blue Ridge Literacy continued to provide adult literacy learners in our community with the Functional Literacy Skills they need to reach their life goals. Functional Literacy refers to practical skill-sets required to read, write, and communicate for real-life purposes, so people can function effectively and safely in everyday settings and achieve their long-term plans and goals. To accommodate the needs of our learners, we continued offering online and in-person options for our tutoring and ESOL services and citizenship preparation programs.

At Blue Ridge Literacy, we have utilized our various community partnerships to provide cross-sectional literacy services targeting areas such as Financial, Digital, and Health Literacy, and information about available community resources and services. By addressing the informational gap of adult learners, BRL's cross-sectional literacy services help learners gain equitable access to opportunities and resources they need to improve living conditions for themselves and their families.

## LEARNERS

283

enrolled in ESOL classes

98

worked with a 1:1 tutor

108

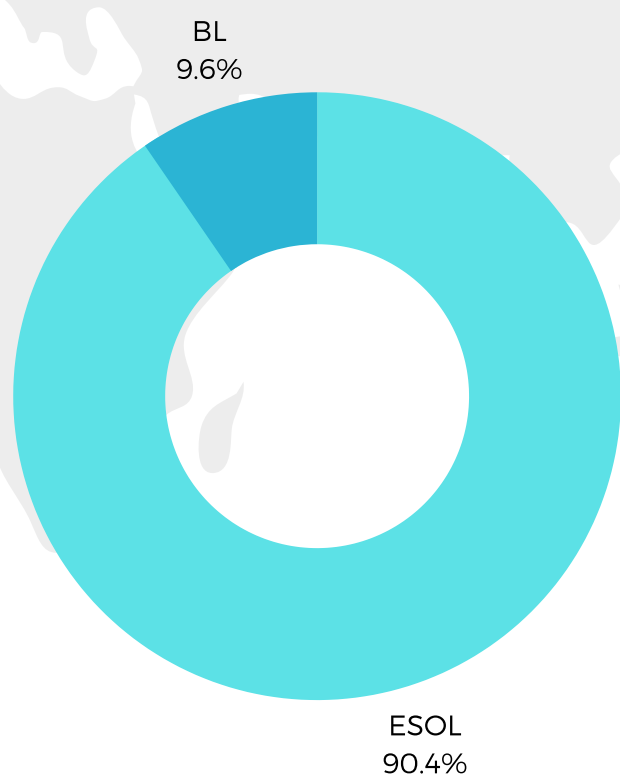
improved Health Literacy Skills

86

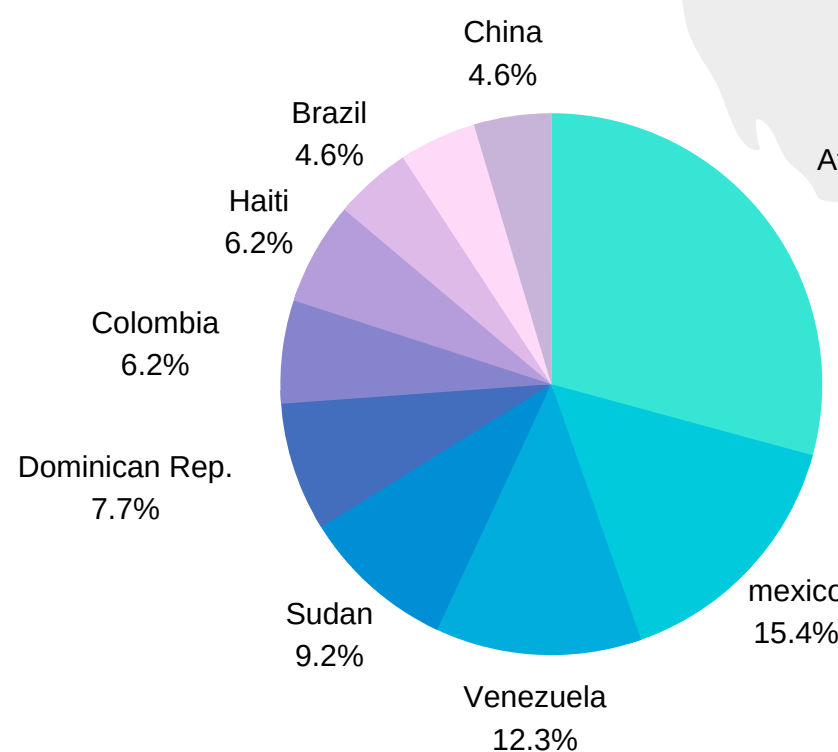
Improved Digital Literacy Skills

12

became US citizens



BRL's English literacy services are offered to American and Foreign-born adults in Southwest Virginia. Currently, 90% of BRL learners are foreign-born adults enrolled in our ESOL and Citizenship Preparation programs.



In Fiscal Year 20-21, BRL's learners represented 48 countries, including the United States. The top five countries represented were Afghanistan, Mexico, Venezuela, Sudan, and the Dominican Republic,

## VOLUNTEERS

7800 total instruction and volunteer hours

In FY 20-21, BRL's volunteers and instructors allocated a total of 7800 hours to provide online and in-person training to over 300 learners in one-on-one and classroom settings. BRL's Literacy volunteers served as one-on-one tutors, online and in-person classroom instructors, and classroom assistants in our English and Healthy literacy classes.

102

total # of literacy volunteers

38

new volunteers engaged through six online volunteer training workshops

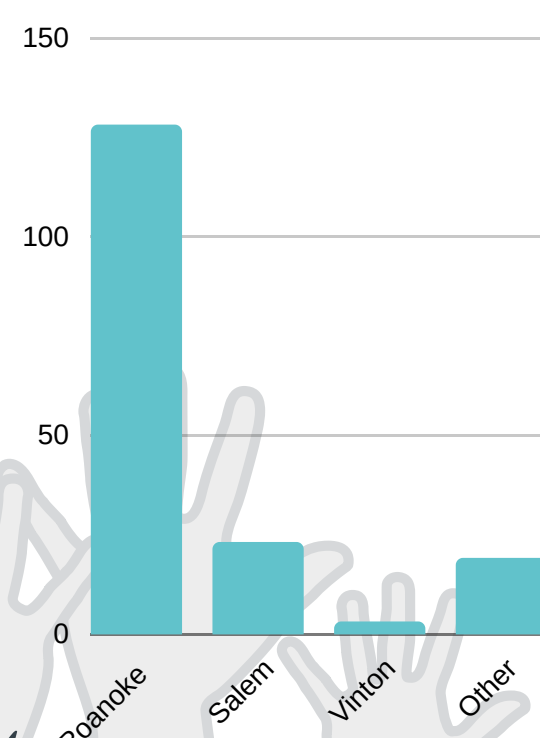
100%

of volunteers who left in 2020 completed their commitment

Who volunteers?



Women make up 70% of volunteers at BRL



Most BRL literacy volunteers live in Roanoke City

Life goals through literacy