



Tompkins Learning Partners, Inc.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2009

“Listening - Speaking - Reading - Writing”  
(ProLiteracy’s philosophy of language instruction.)

## TLP Staff

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David H. Smith, Executive Director  
Arline A. Woolley, ABE Coordinator  
Sarah B. White, ESL Coordinator  
Sharon McGee, Administrative Assistant  
Tom Connors, Program Support Assistant  
Kelsey Walzer, Ithaca College Work Study  
Jim Atkinson, Volunteer Librarian

## TLP Board of Directors

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Tom Weiler, President	Ellen Bonn
Grace McMenamin, Vice President	Tanya Brozost
Cecilia Campbell, Treasurer	Mary-Lynn Cummings
Sue Lason, Secretary	Michelle Mekos
	Celia Miller
	Neal R. Spencer
	Gary Weissbrot

## A Message From *The Executive Director:*

2009 was a milestone year for me here at Tompkins Learning Partners. I celebrated a decade as the agency’s executive director, ten years that were truly pleasurable for me, full of memorable relationships with our tutors, board members, volunteers, donors, and staff.

Over the years I witnessed major changes. We changed our name and became an independent incorporated not-for-profit agency with our own tax-exempt status. We added Incarcerated Youth Services to our program. We became accredited under the auspices of ProLiteracy. We explored and adopted new ways to teach and test our students. Our budget stabilized. Every time I thought things were sort of “settled,” a new challenge presented itself.

Another new challenge, but also a great opportunity, presented itself in 2009. At TLP’s request, David and Elaine Easton, our landlords, donated to us the building where we have rented space for the last sixteen years. It was the former home of Elaine Easton’s mother, Pauline Bailey Jones.

We took possession in December. Now a series of renovations that will add much needed tutoring and office space and infrastructure upgrades to the entire building are being planned. This wonderful gift gives Tompkins Learning Partners a permanent, centrally located home as well as the additional room we need to maximize our program capacity.

We look forward to making the most of this exciting opportunity, and we are enormously grateful to the Eastons for this outstanding gift. Plans are under way to reach out to our Tompkins Learning Partners’ community and the greater Tompkins County community to further partner with us as we work to make 124 West Buffalo a space of which we can all be proud.

*David H. Smith*

# TLP Student Achievements

## ABE Students

R. is gaining in confidence. He reports reading more at home and finding it beneficial.

N. showed measurable improvement in the ability to pick out the main idea of paragraphs. This has been difficult in the past. A recent worksheet completed independently was 100% correct.

L. said she believes she was hired [for her new job] because after working through TLP, she has a better understanding of words and was better able to communicate during the interview.

G. obtained his GED after focusing on writing. He now reports he will enroll in college courses.

D. obtained part-time employment. He also reports that he is able to read to his young school age children more easily this year.

## ESL Students

L. is active in supporting her young son's education. In her lessons, she focused on how to help her son with school and learning. She also learned where in the library she could find resources for her son.

T. passed the English and Civics exam needed to become a U.S. citizen at the end of October.

B. learned how to access and view online the retirement account he has through his job.

C. was able to communicate with school staff regarding his children.

E. read and understood an evaluation form and a policy document from work.

Z. learned to read the abbreviations for food on the cash register at work. She can now serve as cashier.

## Students Served

	ABE	ESL	Total
Instruction >= 12 hours	43	32	75
Instruction < 12 hours	30	29	59
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>134</b>

## Active Volunteers

ABE Tutors	38
ESL Tutors	38
Other	45
<b>Total Volunteers</b>	<b>121</b>

## Volunteer Hours

ABE and ESL Tutors	4,112
Other Volunteer Hours	977
<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>5,089</b>

## Students' Places of Birth

Afghanistan	China	India
Azerbaijan	Dominican Republic	Mali
Bosnia	Ecuador	Morocco
Bulgaria	El Salvador	Philippines
Burma	Ethiopia	Puerto Rico
Cambodia	Gambia	Russia
	Guatemala	South Korea
	Honduras	Thailand
		Tibet
		Ukraine
		United States
		Vietnam



Henry Cowan Outstanding Tutor recipient Maggie Goldsmith (left), and Exemplar Award recipient Jim Atkinson (right).

### 2009 Henry Cowan Outstanding Tutor: Maggie Goldsmith

Maggie Goldsmith, recipient of the Tutor of the Year Award, has been a tutor with the agency since 2006 and also serves as a liaison between TLP and Lansing Residential Center. In addition to providing a communication link between the two organizations, she has also mentored other tutors, and worked with facility staff to match tutors with resident students. She is a strong advocate for the education of the young women at Lansing Residential Center.

### 2009 Exemplar Award: Jim Atkinson

The recipient of the 2009 Exemplar Award is Ithaca resident Jim Atkinson. Jim has been a volunteer with TLP for two years, focusing most of his time and efforts reorganizing the agency's library, editing the agency's publications and assisting with fundraising.

The Exemplar Award is presented annually to an individual, business or organization that has partnered with TLP in a non-tutoring capacity to further its mission to help individuals enrich their lives through literacy.

## TLP's Mission

Our mission is to help adults and young people who live or work in Tompkins County meet their personal goals, free of charge, by improving their ability to read, write, and speak English, and to use math and computers.

Students achieve these goals by working together with professionally trained and supported volunteer tutors.

## January–December 2009 Operating Budget

Revenues:*	
County/City	91,902
NYS Dept. of Education:	
Adult Lit. Education	17,418
ESOL/Civics	9,652
United Way:	
Community Fund	14,086
Designated	7,439
Individual Contributions	10,810
Service Organizations	10,714
Foundations	15,000
Fundraising Events	14,628
Misc. Income	3,032
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>194,681</b>

\*Cash received basis unrestricted Program Funds

Expenses:	
Program Services	185,456
Management & General	17,326
Fundraising Expenses	4,768
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>207,550</b>

Value of Volunteer Time **\$103,052**

# TLP Tutors:

Lori Abbott, Judith Ashton, Pat Avery, D. G. Bancroft-Gowin, Cheryl Barbasch, Kelly Basner, Trudy Baum, Kris Bennett, Becky Bilderback, Pat Brehl, Molly Buck, Jean Celeste-Astorina, Carrie Chalmers, Emily Christensen, Mary-Lynn Cummings, Joshua Eberle, Lizzy Evett, Jan Frieswyk, Bethany Fuller, Jody Gabler, Chris George, Doreen Glynn, Barb Goldberg, Maggie Goldsmith, Jan Gurnon, Barb Hatt, Jean Healy, Carol Hockett, Alicia Irwin, Susan Jaquette, Pilar Junco, Linda Keeler, Katie Kelly, Barbara Kretzmann, Nelda Kubat, Allegra Lambert, Jim Lombardi, Jan McCarrick, Laura McCullough, Julie McIntyre, Rebecca Mendez, Angela Mennitto, Dolina Millar, Cara Morgan, Wally Powers, Helen Ranck, Larri Richmond, Karen Salino, Karen Siefert, Nicholas Sims, Samantha Smith, Matt Snyder, Susan Soboroff, Kate Soriano, Edie Spaulding, Peter Specker, Betty Spero, Nancy Suci, Jae Sullivan, Sheryl Swink, Marina Todd, Jillian Trottier, Bill Tyler, Marian Van Loan, Eleanor Vaughn, Pat Wagner, Jenny Waldron, Mary Wang, Sue Watkins, Katie Waxman, Tom Weiler, Amalia Weinberg, Jeff Weiss, Carol Whitlow, Lola Winter, Jan Zeserson\*

\*This list compiled from the 2009 calendar year

TLP would also like to recognize two non-tutoring volunteers, Phyllis Allen and Jim Atkinson, for their many dedicated hours.

Tompkins Learning  
Partners, Inc.  
124 W. Buffalo Street  
Ithaca, NY 14850

Phone:  
607-277-6442

URL:  
[www.TLPartners.org](http://www.TLPartners.org)

E-mail:  
[literacy@TLPartners.org](mailto:literacy@TLPartners.org)



TLP respects the privacy of our students. We never use students' full names or photos without their permission.

Non-Profit Organization

U.S POSTAGE

**PAID**

Ithaca, NY 14850  
Permit No. 909

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