



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monmouth County Residents Recognized for Helping Increase Literacy

Four Monmouth County residents will be recognized for their dedication and contributions to advancing literacy at today's 14th Annual Literacy Volunteers of Monmouth County's (LVMC) fundraiser at the Navesink Country Club.



Literacy Education Excellence Award: **Trudy and Charlie Parton** of Little Silver, saw an opportunity to give back to the community and worked with LVMC to tutor several students. Trudy began tutoring in 2010 and Charlie followed in 2015. In addition to their volunteering with individual students, the couple was instrumental in establishing LVMC's partnership with Lunch Break in Red Bank offering ESL classes to Lunch Break participants.



Literacy Advocate Award: **Victor Rodrigues**, Branch Manager, Investors Bank, Long Branch, contacted LVMC in 2016 to see how Investors Bank could help the local community. With his guidance, LVMC applied for its first Financial Literacy grant in 2017. The funds provided the foundation for LVMC's Financial Literacy Workshops which reached 74 adults in 2017. Victor supplied the curriculum for these classes and provided materials to supplement the instruction. In addition, Victor added LVMC to Investors Bank's [Care2Share Affinity Program](#) so interested individuals could contribute quarterly to LVMC.

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Literacy Champion Award: **Julie Richards** of Colts Neck dedicated numerous hours as a volunteer in support of LVMC's fundraising events. As a master gift-basket designer, she has shared her talents in designing the gift baskets for various organizations' fundraisers including LVMC, as well as participating in our annual Barnes & Noble Book Fairs. She also presented workshops at LVMC to volunteers of other non-profits on gift basket design.

"Thank you to all who give their time, talents and money to help our students change their lives by improving their English literacy skills," said Rebecca Lucas, Director, LVMC. "Without them we wouldn't be able to reach the hundreds of adults and their families throughout Monmouth County."

For more information about LVMC, please visit <https://www.lvmonmouthnj.org/main.php>. Keep up-to-date about news, stats and programs by following LVMC on Facebook @literacyvolunteersofmonmouthcounty.

About LVMC

Literacy Volunteers of Monmouth County is a nonprofit, 501c3 charitable organization registered with the State of New Jersey under Literacy Volunteers of America – Monmouth County. Except for a full-time director, one part-time employee, and one hourly employee, LVMC is a volunteer-based organization funded by grants, donations and the annual fundraising dinner.

Literacy Volunteers of Monmouth County provides an 18- hour tutor-training for volunteers, aged 18 years and older, who have completed high school and who wish to address the low-level literacy needs of adults in Monmouth County. We strive to meet the literacy needs of adults born in America and other English-speaking countries (Basic Literacy) and the needs of adults for whom English is not their native language (ESL). Volunteer tutors do not need to know another language to help ESL adult students.

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