



# LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

## INSIGHTS AND UPDATES

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### Lives Changed Through Literacy



## *Congratulations*

Jennifer Hobbs

Our recent GED

Graduate

In May of 2021, she walked through our doors—a woman burdened by the weight of community struggles. She battled, employment woes, transportation challenges, and the harsh reality of homelessness pressed upon her. Yet, within her, a spark ignited—a goal that would defy all odds: to earn her GED.

Matched with dedicated tutors, she embarked on her educational path. Paired with Lou Carter, a tutor who understood her circumstances, they agreed to meet in an open area in the cupola at Havens Gardens. But life, relentless in its twists, threw obstacles her way. Classes were missed, and at times, she vanished altogether. In October of 2021 she again contacted Literacy Volunteers and was matched with Julianna Mish to help with the Social Studies portion of the test. She “couch-surfed,” sought refuge with relatives, and even found solace in a humble tent. Yet, her spirit remained unyielding.

Unable to consistently meet face-to-face, she adapted. Assignments flowed through our mailbox—a silent exchange of determination and hope. As the new year dawned, she faced her tests—one by one. Reading—conquered. Social Studies—mastered. Science—triumphed. And then, the final frontier: Math.

It wasn't easy. More than one attempt. Frustration, perhaps. But her perseverance carved a path. On June 3rd, the moment arrived—the Math test conquered, the GED certificate earned. A beacon of resilience, she stood tall. On July 14, 2024, The Board of Directors of Literacy Volunteers gave her a graduation party at Pamlico Books complete with cap and gown with former tutors and board members to cheer her on.

Now, she sets her sights on BCCC—Fall awaits, and with it, dreams of a nursing career. Her journey, a testament to the human spirit, reminds us that education transcends adversity. It transforms lives, shapes futures, and lights the way.



On behalf of Literacy Volunteers, we want to say “Thank You” to The Jonathan Havens Charitable Trust. Your support in covering the costs of supplies and printing for our newsletter allows us to share stories, updates and inspiration to our community.

## WELCOME



It is with great excitement that we introduce Alecia Rhoe, our newest addition to the LVBC Board of Directors. Alecia is currently the ROSS (Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency) Coordinator for the Washington Housing Authority and brings a wealth of experience, passion and fresh perspectives to our team. Her passion is, "To see people grow and reach their dreams." and her commitment to our mission of promoting literacy is inspiring. We look forward to the positive impact she will make.

Alecia, Welcome Aboard!

## Board of Directors

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## Join Our Team

By

- Donating to Literacy Volunteers
- Volunteering the evening of the Walk Nov 1st
- Becoming a Fundraiser and helping us reach our goal.

The Moonlight Stroll is a community event powered by United Way to help local non-profit organizations raise much needed funds.

Why do we walk? We walk because literacy has profound effects on communities, touching various aspects of social, economic, and personal well-being. Please scan the code to learn more.



## Special Thank You to Pamlico Books

On behalf of all of us at Literacy Volunteers,, we extend our deepest gratitude To Tom Ryan and Pamlico Books for your unwavering support. Your commitment to to our organization has made a significant impact and we're truly thankful. As you continue your journey, may success and fulfillment accompany every step. We wish you all the best!

### A Tip of the Hat

Zion Episcopal Church, Washington  
The Women Club of Cypress Landing  
Washington Noon Rotary  
Bath Christian Church  
The Jonathan Havens Charitable Trust  
ECU Health



Thank you for your contribution to the  
mission of Literacy Volunteers.

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It is with gratitude and a touch of nostalgia that we acknowledge the retirements of three of our Board Members: (L-R) Virginia Jenks, Ellen Angus, and Robin Smart. May retirement bring you well-deserved rest, adventure, and the joy of turning pages just for pleasure. On behalf of the entire Literacy Volunteers family we wish you sunny days, cozy reading nooks, and the fulfillment that comes from a life well-lived.



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