



# ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada

One-on-one Tutoring in ESL, GED, Computer Literacy, and U.S. Citizenship Study  
AT NO COST

In Carson City, Washoe, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill Counties

## NEWSLETTER

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January-February 2018



### MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It has been an honor and pleasure to again serve this needed program. 2017 was a year of strong programmatic growth amidst the on-going economic climate that affects our students as well as our agency for lack of funds to purchase the instructional materials as well as organization expenses. Despite these difficulties, we have continued to provide our high quality of services to increasing numbers of adults and families who were and are eager to learn English language skills.

Our Board of Directors has provided great leadership and support; the number of community friends, partners and supporters continues to grow. This is why we continue to carry forward our mission:.....to provide free adult educational programs that empower people, espe-

cially those of low-to-moderate income, to become more productive members of their local communities by providing them with the language and cultural skills necessary for life in America.

Year 2018 will be bringing more of these courageous people to our program to learn or improve their English language skills while living in America, and we are indebted to those partners, donors, and supporters who will continue to support us.

But most importantly, I am indebted to all the (current 205) ESL volunteers in the 5 counties where we exist, who give generously of their time, passion and commitment toward making this program work and for the success it is today. Without you, the volunteer tutors, whether in financial healthy times

or those times of challenge, the ESL In-Home Program would not still be in existence, approaching our 14<sup>th</sup> year.

While grant funding covers our cost for instructional materials, they don't fully fund all of our operational expenses. If you would like to make a year-end tax deductible gift, go to our website:

[www.eslinhome.org](http://www.eslinhome.org)

and click the yellow "Donate" button.



**WE NEED YOUR HELP.....  
EVEN 1 HOUR OF TUTORING OR  
\$5.00**

Warm wishes to all for health, prosperity and peace in 2018.

With Gratitude, *Florence*

### TIPS FOR TUTORS:

From Reno Tutor Dana C: This website makes not only bingo, but puzzles, word searches, scrambles, matching and other games for my class. It's called "**Wordmint**". It costs about \$20.00 and has been worth every penny.

### WANTED

We are reviewing applications for the position of Secretary to take notes at our Board of Directors' meetings. We meet 3-4 times a year. If you have not applied, and are interested, send your information to [eslinhomennv@gmail.com](mailto:eslinhomennv@gmail.com) or call 775-888-2021

# SOME STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES IN 2017

Ghandi said: *"Be the change you wish to see in this world."*

Help with Literacy. Read below and witness the power that learning to speak, read and write English has on changing the lives of adults and their communities:

**Tutor Jasmine H.-Reno.** Student Bella S. is doing extremely well, and her confidence is growing. She was named employee of the month at work--so exciting!

**Tutor Helen W.- Gardnerville.** One of the things we try to do in our ESL classes is ensure our students know how to react in emergencies. In the basic classes our students are asked to recite their home address clearly - one number at a time - along with their telephone number. We also teach the importance of 911. Last week RN Noemi Aschenback from Douglas County Community Health Clinical Services spoke to our students about the difference between emergent care, emergency room, and 911. Sadly, on Sunday one of our student's mother-in-law, who was living with her and her husband, passed away in the student's house. The student quickly called 911 and slowly spoke her address into the phone. Emergency responders were there within minutes. The student said it was the training she received in the class about knowing her address and to speak it slowly one number at a time along with the RN Aschenbach's training on who to call that kept her thinking clearly.

**Tutor Carol M.- Carson.** What a fantastic difference from my students' first attempts last year! They will be just fine going back to school nights, and speaking with people in the office. Also, when Ofelia went to school last week to pick up her daughter, she had to produce her ID. Maria said when she went to her son's school, she did not need an ID....hmmmm? We then practiced Q and A using short answers. I made a few new flash cards to practice the phrases.

**Tutor Paul C. -Carson.** His Student Israel D. got a new Job.

**Tutor Maureen-Reno** commented: My student Maripaz's colleagues took me aside as I left the ESL session to say: *"Maripaz has become fluent! Are you her teacher? She is speaking and writing English so well now!"*

**Tutor Linda W.- Carson-** Students Gaby and Reina are doing amazing, they went to the parent/teacher conferences.

**Tutor Terry H. Reno.** Student Betty has obtained a new job with better hours and better pay.

**Tutor Elizabeth P. -Reno-** Student Luciana changed her cell phone message from Spanish to English.

**Tutor Judy S. - Gardnerville.** Odelinda has felt comfortable enough with the English she has learned to help out a couple of times a month with children's group at her church. This is her way to giving back.

**Tutor Iris B.- Gardnerville.** Students Rocio and Norma are taking the citizenship class. Norma passed the test for her work training. Sagrario has a new job.

**Tutor Mary H.-Reno.** Heysi C. was able to read "the Night before Christmas" and she will read it to her 5 year old son.

**Tutor Dana C. -Reno.** My student Enrique told me that the people at his work are noticing his much improved English. He is delighted.

**Tutor Catherine T. -Reno.** Her student Isabel volunteers in school for a 4th grade class.

**Tutor Agnes D. (Computer teacher, Reno).** My student, Rocio G. learned how to read and send emails which is important for her new position. She now can open and send attachments.

**Raemy M. is an English Conversation tutor. -Carson.** Said: "I am so proud of Olga O. Because of the ESL In-Home Program she is an outstanding Engineer in her job. Also I am so proud of Marifina learning hard to be fluent in speaking in English.

**Tutor Gina M. -Carson.** Student Noe started a new job at Jacks Valley Elementary School.

**Tutor Mary M.-Gardnerville.** Student Maria S. says the word "girl" correctly. Maria is reading kindergarten books to her son.

**Tutor Teresa S.-Carson.** Her student Blanca has signed up for the citizenship class.

**Tutor Helen W.-Gardnerville.** I had two potential tutors sit in one of my classes. Each and every student introduced themselves as they came in with perfect English. "Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. Nice to meet you." I did not even prompt them. Awesome moment!

## A letter from a Student to Santa:

This year I think that I have become a good girl because I am a hard worker, a good mother, good friend, good sister and a good student. Then I deserve a car. I also want a very good life for my family in Mexico. I wish that my daughter can realize her dreams and all her wishes become true. I want my ESL teacher to have lots of blessing and happiness in her life. Another wish: I would like to travel around the US and some day around the world.

ESL In-Home Student, Blanca.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS FOR ADVANCING THEIR ENGLISH LEVELS IN 2017:

**Douglas Cty Students:** Pilar A., Jesus R., Yuri C., Margarita T., Leticia G., Luz Martinez, Brenda G. Nancy M. Mariana D. Efrain L, Maria V., Reina O., Gabriela M., Maria S., Teresa B., Carmen E.

**Washoe Cty:** Ernestina M., Enrique R., Viridiana C., Carmen O., Olga V., Maria C., Antonia P., Esther C., Andrea L. Heber E.

**Carson City and Lyon Cty:** Juan R., Anielka R. Maria R. Hilda M.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW CITIZENS IN 2017:

Deepti Admin., Juana Baez, Macarena Sepulveda, Cruz Campos, Hermelinda Paniagua, Heysi Carpio, Jorge Sabogal, Luvia Liotiris, Martha Cruz, Jovita Gonzalez, Esperanza Lacour, Hilda Mesa, Soledad Carrasco, Maria Lopez, Josefina Rodriguez, Lilia Ines Dove, Antonio Villafranco.

# PREPARING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

## Increasing adults' education creates positive ripple effects for their children

Every day across Northern Nevada parents are experiencing hope and optimism for their futures because they are gaining valuable literacy and employability skills that empower them to contribute to their communities and achieve economic self-sufficiency through the ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada (a no-cost-to-student program). Children are seeing their parents work hard and studying English language skills and they reap the benefits. ESL is seeing families lift themselves out of poverty, breaking a long-standing cycle.

### Here's one parent's story:

I have been in the U.S. for more than 16 years. The reason I left my country was because I wanted my children to have a good education and live in a "free" and "safe" country. When I arrived I came with my 2 young children. I had received a Bachelor's Degree in my country, but when I

came here I had to start over. I enrolled in College starting with an ESL class and obtained my GED. My children were little so I was a part-time student.

At the same time, I also found the ESL In-Home Program and started with a personal tutor as well as I wanted to learn my new country's language as fast as I could. He helped me revising my essays and, most important, he helped me to speak. After 6 years at the College I finally got an Associate Degree in Business.

Also, thanks to my ESL tutor, I was able to help my children with their homework. I started volunteering at my children's school and got involved in their education. Now they are success students. My daughter graduated from High School with Honors. She is now in her 2nd year at UNR. She is going to finish her major in Journalism in only 2 years and continues to get a minor in Business. My

son is a sophomore in High School. He is in 4 honor classes and is planning to go to UNR too.

I contribute their successes to my dedication to expand my education for my children. It worked. I was a role model for them as they saw me study hard.

I have to thank the ESL In-Home Program for finding the perfect tutor for me. I have to thank my tutor, who still helps me to be fluent in English at no cost to me.

Now I have a good job. Now I am not afraid to speak on the phone. Now I can go to the doctor and I do not need an interpreter. Now I have been able to help some friends as an interpreter for them as I continue as a student in the ESL In-Home Program to keep learning of the American culture so that eventually I can start my own business.

**Thank you ESL In-Home Program !!!!!**  
**Victoria T.**

## Let's face the fact that we have immigrants living in our communities

# What is America to me?

From NYTIMES by Margaret Renkl, 7/28/17

"In 2015, just as refugees were pouring out of Syria and pictures of terrified children filled every newscast and front page in the world, a small notice appeared in a church bulletin: "Are you looking for a way to help our city's newest refugees?" It was a call for volunteers to assist in English-language classrooms at a local public school.

I was once a high-school literature teacher, so I saved it, planning to follow through whenever life slowed down a little. More than a year later, I was still dithering. But finally I volunteered.

The sun was just rising when I left for my first class. I had been away from school for 20 years and I was a little nervous, but when I walked through those doors, I felt instantly at home. While I signed the visitors' log, two students wearing hijabs hugged each other goodbye in the bright corridor, and the principal switched on the intercom to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

My oldest son is a middle-school teacher at another school with a large immigrant population. They welcome immigrants who are here, but they argue for a level playing field, where newcomers are bound by the same rules they are bound by themselves.

The challenge of teaching "English learners", as they are called in schools, is immense, and this political climate only adds to the complexity of the task. The students in an English-learners classroom speak many different languages at home, and their English-language competence varies widely.

Every step in the process of speaking - or listening, or reading, or writing - must be broken down and explained. A typical class includes a lesson followed by a chance to work in pairs, taking turns reading (or speaking) and listening (or writing).

My job is to do the same, answering questions or serving as a partner for a student without one.

At times, I am flummoxed by a student's question, and then all the others at the table pitch in to explain. They do not speak one another's languages either, but they understand better than I do what is puzzling about the lesson, and they help one another - and sometimes me - understand.

English is a problematic language, but these students are working hard to learn it - and working harder still to belong.

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**OUR GOAL IS TO EXPAND THE ESL PROGRAM FROM 5 COUNTIES WHERE WE NOW EXIST TO OTHER RURAL COUNTIES IN NORTHERN NEVADA WHERE ESL CLASSES DO NOT EXIST. WE NEED YOUR HELP.....EVEN ONE HOUR OF TUTORING OR \$5.00**



Florence G. Philips



## Another Message From the Executive Director

From One of our ESL tutors, anonymously:  
 “I'm one of those people who believe English should be the official language,” he said. “My way of putting my time where my mouth is, is to help people learn English.”

The [Volunteering and Civic Life in America](#) report ranks Nevada 48th in the nation by volunteer rate. We have the power to change Nevada's volunteer story. Please *Take it Personally*.

## ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada

In  
Carson, Washoe, Douglas, Lyon and  
Churchill Counties

*We tutor English as a Second Language (ESL),  
GED Preparation, Work Place Communication,  
Computer Literacy, and U.S. Citizenship Study  
on a one-on-one basis or in small groups of 2-5*

**AT NO COST!!!!**

### Our Mailing Address:

1894 E. William St. #4-125

Carson City, NV 89701

**775-888-2021**

*If you would like to be taken off our mailing list  
please Email us at: [eslinhomenv@gmail.com](mailto:eslinhomenv@gmail.com) with  
“Remove”, your name and city in the Subject box.*

### Mission Statement:

ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada, a non-profit volunteer educational organization, provides free adult educational programs that empower people, especially those of low-to-moderate income, to become more productive members of their local communities by providing them with the language and cultural skills necessary for life in America.



**TUTORS:** *Invite your friends to become an ESL volunteer tutor! Tell them why you enjoy the experience. Invite them to learn more about our program on our website:*

[www.eslinhome.org](http://www.eslinhome.org).

*It is not necessary for tutors to know a foreign language nor have prior teaching experience. We train at no cost.....one hour on your preferred day/time/location.*

**We're on the Web and on Facebook!**

[www.eslinhome.org](http://www.eslinhome.org)

All donations support our program to start new adult students who are eager to learn English. Please go to: [www.gofundme.com/eslinhome](http://www.gofundme.com/eslinhome) Even one dollar helps. If you have an AMAZON account and you are buying gifts for birthdays, holidays, or “just because” go to: [amazonsmile.com](http://amazonsmile.com) and choose **ESL In-Home Program** as your charity, or go to our website: [www.eslinhome.org/donations](http://www.eslinhome.org/donations)

All donations are 100% tax deductible to the extent provided by law. **WE NEED YOUR HELP.....**

**EVEN \$5.00**