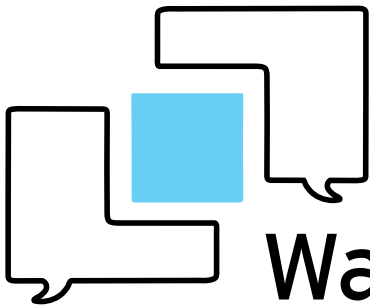


Improving the lives of immigrants through education

ANNUAL
REPORT
FY14



*Formerly
Language ETC*

Washington English Center

Improving the lives of immigrants through education.

www.washingtonenglish.org

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide excellent and affordable English classes and other educational programs to immigrants using volunteer teachers.

More than 300 volunteers serve as teachers and tutors each term

Washington English Center (WEC), formerly Language ETC, was founded in 1993 to provide English and literacy training to low-income adult immigrants. Since 1993 our volunteer teachers and tutors have provided students with the education and support they need to build a better future for themselves and their children. Our commitment is to provide high-quality educational services to all low-income immigrants in the Washington area, regardless of ability to pay.



A Message from the Director

Washington English Center had another fantastic year of growth and accomplishments. We continue to serve more and more students every year, in FY14 (July 2013 – June 2014) we served over 1500 students from 92 different countries! Everyone was excited to start the new year with a new name and logo. We welcomed back two staff members that had previously worked with us and were compelled to return, as the many volunteers and students that also keep coming back. Most of our students want to improve their English skills to improve their employment prospects. To help students meet their employment goals we have focused efforts on providing more employment related programs and activities throughout our work. When students tell us they found work, or got a better paying job because they can now communicate and work with customers, we know we are improving their lives and the lives of their families.

Mercedes Lemp,
Executive Director

A Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

It has once again been a privilege for me to serve as Chair of the Board of the Washington English Center. The determined and hard-working students who come through our doors inspire all of our volunteers and staff. Their commitment to finding their way in our adopted country compels each of us to work diligently on their behalf throughout the year.

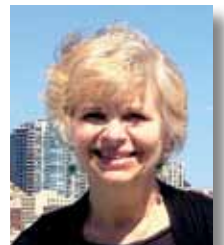
Washington English Center (formerly Language ETC) experienced strong growth and progress for fiscal year 2014.

We completed the first year under our new name, which went as smoothly as we could hope. Our students, volunteers and staff are sporting T-shirts and bags with the new look and logo, helping to cement our new brand identity. We saw record growth in enrollments, especially in our computer literacy offerings. Our staff is stable and strong, with the addition of a new Deputy Director. We successfully integrated new technologies, like iPads and social media, along with upgraded language lab software, into our curriculum. We had more offerings and more participation in teacher training than ever. Our teacher blog continues to win awards and rave reviews. Our fundraising exceeded targets and our ability to provide scholarship support to students has been fortified.

Our community is strong, our students are thriving and our reputation for excellence continues to grow. We thank you for your ongoing support of our program and look forward to your involvement in our future endeavors.

Thank you!

Karen Yudelson Sandler,
Chair of the Board,
Washington English Center



SERVICES

Program Overview

- **ESL Classes: Weekday, Evening and Weekend**
- **Citizenship Classes**
- **Computer Skills Program**
- **Language Lab**
- **Employment Support Programs**
- **Drop-in Conversation Classes**
- **Weekly Tutoring**
- **Summer Conversation Classes**



Washington English Center provides classes in **English as a Second Language** (ESL) covering 11 levels, from Basic through various levels of Advanced. We also offer **citizenship and computer applications** in Spanish and English. More than 300 volunteers serve as teachers and tutors each term. The cost of tuition and books is discounted and scholarships are available to ensure all are able to attend, regardless of their ability to pay.

ESL classes are focused on work- and life-skill topics that help students as they go through their daily activities, as well as helping them to advance in their jobs. To meet the varied schedules of our students, classes are held weekday mornings and evenings, Sunday mornings, and Saturday and Sunday afternoons. 12 week terms begin in September, January and April. In the summer, a 6-week course is offered that covers basic, intermediate and advanced conversation.

ESL students can also take advantage of free writing classes and one-on-one tutoring, unlimited access to the Language Lab and they receive a discount on computer classes. We also provide free conversation groups before and after classes.

A computer Language-Lab and the use of iPads and laptops in the classroom allows students to pick up valuable computer skills as they improve their English.



With over 2800 annual enrollments and over 1500 individual students, Washington English Center, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, is one of the largest non-profit ESL providers in the Washington D.C. area.

OUR STUDENTS

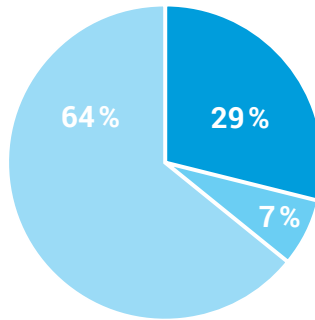
- 2818 students enrolled in FY2014 from over 90 countries
- Over 65% of students enrolled for more than one term
- About 60% are Latino



Moving to the United States was a very big decision for me. It was not easy for me to leave my family, my relatives, my friends, and everything I was trying to achieve, and come to the United States to start a new life style that was totally different than the one I used to have in Santa Cruz-Bolivia. I knew that in the United States, I could be whoever and whatever I wanted to be. For that reason, I pushed and I'm still pushing myself to learn English well at the Washington English Center school. That means going to get the English GED, getting the best education I can have to help me in my daily life and my goals in my future, like to finish the criminal justice career.

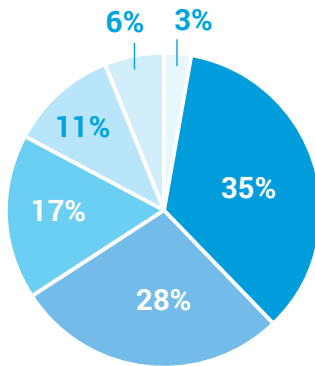
In the end, I feel very lucky to live in the United States of America. That makes me very proud of myself and my decision for leaving my country, Bolivia, and starting a new life here. I now know the value of hard work and what I can achieve in this country.

Maritza



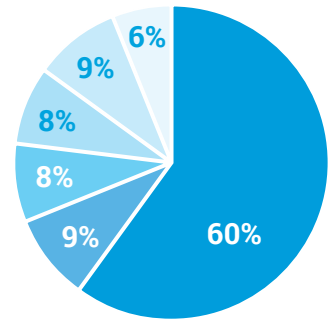
WHERE THEY LIVE

- Maryland
- Virginia
- D.C.



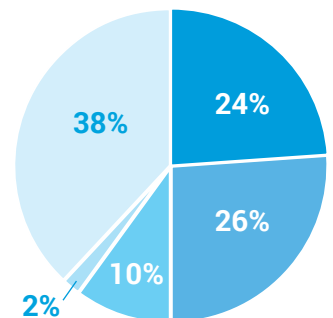
AGE

- 14 - 19
- 20 - 30
- 30 - 40
- 40 - 50
- 50 - 60
- 60 +



ETHNICITY

- Hispanic
- Asian
- African
- White
- Asia/Middle East
- European/Russian



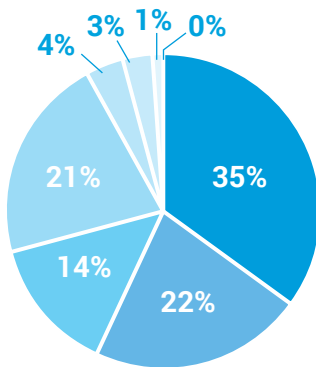
INCOME LEVELS

- \$0 - 10 K
- \$10 - 20 K
- \$20 - 40 K
- greater than \$40 K
- unknown



Louisa

I'm from the Central African Republic. Well, leaving the place you belong for a brand new country is a big challenge. I moved to the US approximately three years ago. My mother never talked to us about her plan to come to America. It was on Monday afternoon when I got home from school, my mother called my siblings and me to the living room and she gladly told us to pack our bags, because we will take the 5 AM flight to America. My father is a politician and he knew, there will be war, so he asked my mother to take us out of the country for safety. English has gained my heart since I was in Africa. I have always been interested in learning so having the opportunity to take English class at WEC is like a dream come true. WEC is not only a school to me, it is like my second home. I love to be around my classmates. The energy of the students and the teachers' patience toward us (foreign students) always makes me feel comfortable. The teachers make sure we understood every single detail, knowing that we are learning English. They use a unique way to help us understanding English, I really enjoy every second I have passed in WEC.



DC WARDS THEY COME FROM

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Ward 6
- Ward 7

WHERE OUR STUDENTS CAME FROM:

| Country | Number of Students | Country | Number of Students | Country | Number of Students |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| El Salvador | 326 | Philippines | 7 | Belarus | 2 |
| Guatemala | 176 | Sudan | 7 | Bosnia | 2 |
| Peru | 110 | Turkey | 7 | Cuba | 2 |
| Mexico | 94 | Cameroon | 6 | France | 2 |
| Colombia | 92 | Central African Republic | 6 | Georgia | 2 |
| Honduras | 92 | Costa Rica | 6 | Kyrgyzstan | 2 |
| Ethiopia | 55 | Egypt | 6 | Nepal | 2 |
| Brazil | 46 | Ivory Coast | 6 | Nigeria | 2 |
| Russia | 40 | Senegal | 6 | Pakistan | 2 |
| Bolivia | 35 | Uruguay | 6 | Puerto Rico | 2 |
| Dominican Republic | 23 | Afghanistan | 5 | Albania | 1 |
| Spain | 23 | Congo | 5 | Angola | 1 |
| Nicaragua | 21 | Czech Republic | 5 | Armenia | 1 |
| China | 18 | Mali | 5 | Benin | 1 |
| Ecuador | 17 | Mauritania | 5 | Burgundi | 1 |
| Vietnam | 16 | Paraguay | 5 | Cambodia | 1 |
| Chile | 14 | Ukraine | 5 | Germany | 1 |
| Argentina | 13 | Algeria | 4 | Greece | 1 |
| Laos | 13 | Gabon | 4 | Hungary | 1 |
| Eritrea | 10 | Indonesia | 4 | India | 1 |
| Japan | 10 | Panama | 4 | Latvia | 1 |
| Korea | 10 | Poland | 4 | Lebanon | 1 |
| Taiwan | 10 | Romania | 4 | Macedonia | 1 |
| Thailand | 10 | Sri Lanka | 4 | Moldova | 1 |
| Venezuela | 10 | Tajikistan | 4 | Mozambique | 1 |
| Bangladesh | 9 | Bulgaria | 3 | Saudi Arabia | 1 |
| Haiti | 9 | Burkina Faso | 3 | Slovakia | 1 |
| Kazakhstan | 9 | Guinea | 3 | Syria | 1 |
| Myanmar | 9 | Iran | 3 | Vanuatu | 1 |
| Italy | 8 | Serbia | 3 | Zambia | 1 |
| Morocco | 7 | Togo | 3 | | |

OUR VOLUNTEERS



From Our Volunteers

- Average 350 volunteer teachers and tutors each term
- Over 80% of volunteers return to teach a second term
- Range in age from 20 to 80
- Most have travelled abroad

Anonymous feedback from our end-of-term volunteer surveys...

"I love this program! It keeps me in touch with the immigrant community's issues and with the personal challenges that my students and other immigrants face each day on the street and at work. I love seeing them progress during a term – knowing that learning English will make their lives easier and better – eventually. Also, I am impressed daily with the generosity of all the volunteers. Teaching well takes time and energy, and these volunteers are eager to give their all to our students. Washington English Center is a unique model for educating adults that works very well. It also speaks well for America."

The satisfaction I get from working with the wonderful students is complemented by the attentiveness and support from the wonderful staff. We are called on to do some hard work in classes and I always feel backed up by the staff.

I'm more tolerant, curious and enriched from my work with adult immigrants from many different backgrounds and experiences.

This is by far the most rewarding thing that I do in my life today. It's the ONLY thing that I do that I know helps to make the world a better place.





ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In FY14 WEC

Accomplished the Following:

- **2,817 enrollments**, continuing our annual increases
- **New Customer Service ESL classes**, and more workforce focused activities
- Over **300 volunteer positions filled** each term/over **83% retention** – we continue to attract and retain large numbers of volunteers and have engaged them even more with new social media tools
- Over **82% student advancement rate** (students who advanced to the next ESL level)
- **Expanded use of technology and social media** – teacher and student sets of iPads, free computer workshops, use of Facebook and twitter in classroom as teaching tool
- Selected as a **Catalogue for Philanthropy 2013/2014** featured non-profit (for third time in a row)
- **Successful launch of new name**, including new website and other marketing tools
- **Hired Deputy Director**, added new Deputy and program assistant position

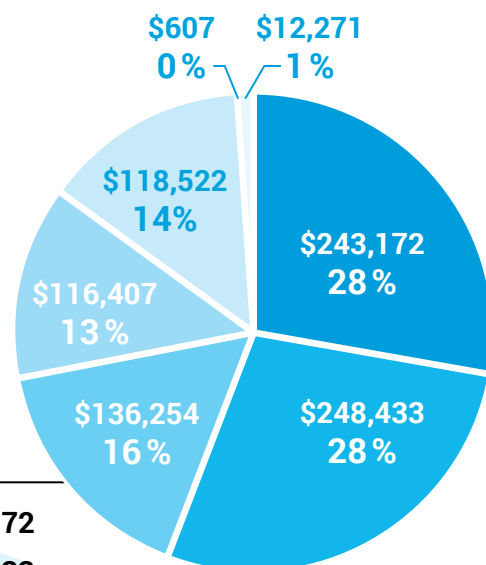


MAJOR INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

Major Institutional Supporters

Acacia Life Insurance Company
 Barbara Notz Hines Foundation
 Cafritz Foundation
 City Center Community Foundation
 Clark Construction
 DC Office on Latino Affairs
 DC Office of State Superintendent
 Inter-American Development Bank
 Jovid Foundation
 John & Cora Davis Foundation
 Holy Trinity Church
 The Meyer Foundation

FY14 REVENUE SOURCES



REVENUE

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| ● Tuition: | \$ 243,172 |
| ● Gov't Grants: | \$ 248,433 |
| ● Other Grants: | \$ 136,254 |
| ● Contributions: | \$ 116,407 |
| ● Gala Income: | \$ 118,522 |
| ● Interest: | \$ 607 |
| ● Other Income: | \$ 12,271 |

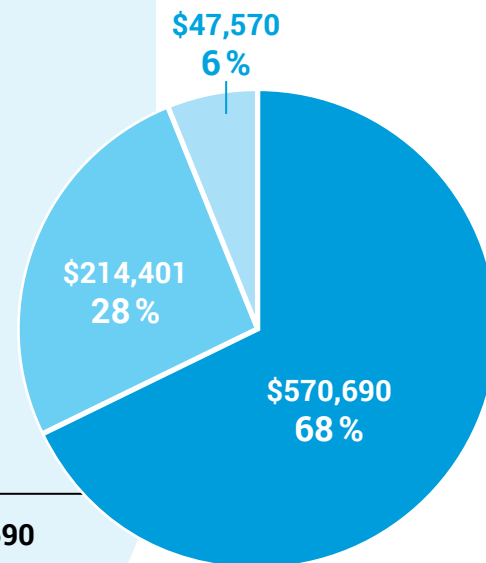
Total Revenue: \$ 875,696

FY14 EXPENSES

EXPENSES

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| ● Program Services: | \$ 570,690 |
| ● Management and General: | \$ 214,401 |
| ● Fundraising: | \$ 47,570 |

Total Expenses: \$ 832,661



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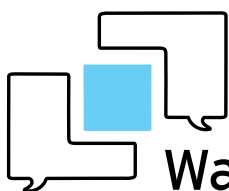
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