

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

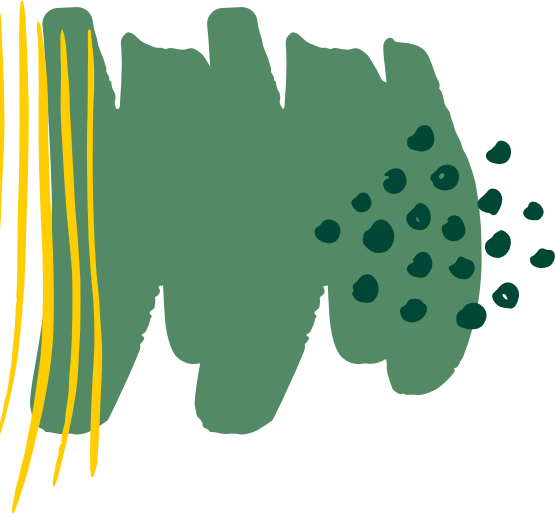


Literacy
is a right,
not a
privilege



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OUR VISION



Literal Change is all about providing a positive academic setting for people who have struggled in the mainstream classroom. We work specifically to improve the literacy levels of communities and populations who have experienced limited access to educational supports and alternative learning strategies.

Our team is made up of individuals from various walks of life and backgrounds. We have an understanding of the barriers that are being faced in vulnerable Toronto communities.

We feel that everyone has a right to access education, and that with effective strategies and supports, individuals will be able to reach their career and academic potential.

Martha Jodhan & Robyn Keystone
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



AT A GLANCE



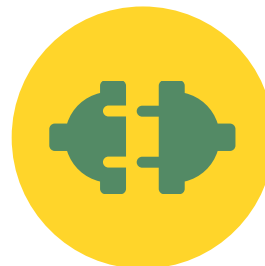
**MOVED ALL
PROGRAMS
ONLINE**



INNOVATED



**SCALED
OUR
SERVICES**



**EXPANDED
OUR
NETWORK**



**RAISED
\$90K IN
DONATIONS**



KEY INITIATIVES

ADULT LITERACY INITIATIVE

- The Toronto South Detention Centre
- The Toronto East Detention Centre
- Virtual Online Learning for the General Public
- Letter Writing Program

YOUTH LITERACY INITIATIVE

- Roy McMurtry Youth Facility
- Child Development Institute: SNAP Program
- C.W. Jeffreys Collegiate Institute
- Westview Collegiate Institute
- Virtual Online Learning for Youth Across the GTA

SERVICE LOCATIONS

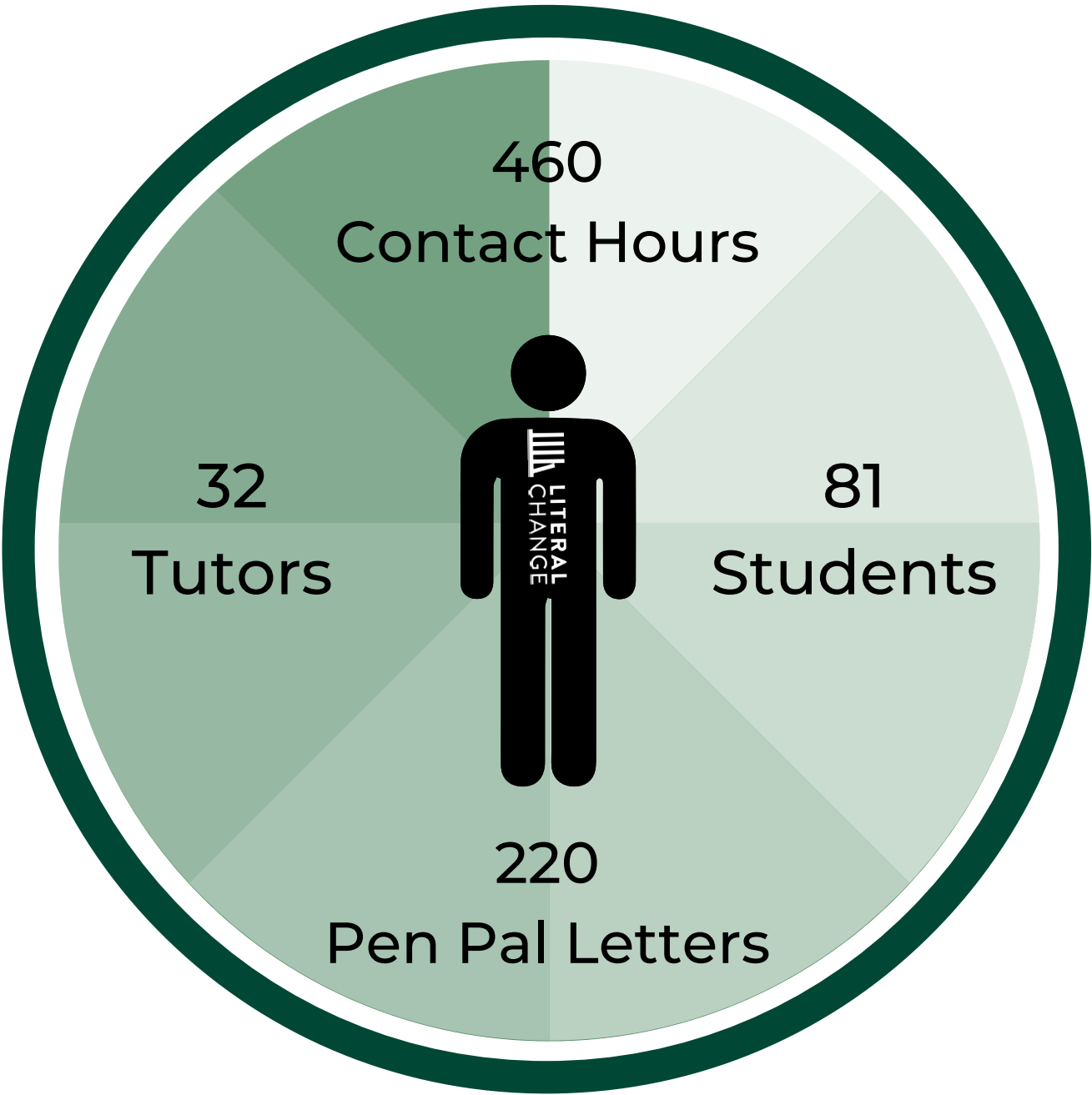
Literal Change provides remedial literacy support in marginalized communities across Toronto.

**Literacy is a right
– not a privilege.**



**Everyone has the
right to a fundamental
literacy education.**

Key Initiatives



OUR 2020 HUSTLE

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Began development of our Literal Change LMS and creation of a Literacy Specialization Course for teachers in The Toronto District School Board.

TECH DONATIONS DRIVE

The boom of virtual learning left in need of laptops to access their online learning sessions. With the help of our volunteers and community we were able to secure a laptop for every student in need.

FOR THE LOVE OF LITERACY VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER

Featuring Michael Ondaatje and Jesse Thistle - Raised 4k for Literal Change.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO UX PARTNERSHIP

Developed a virtual assessment tool for our Literal Change students as a way to standardize our assessment process and track learner progress more easily.

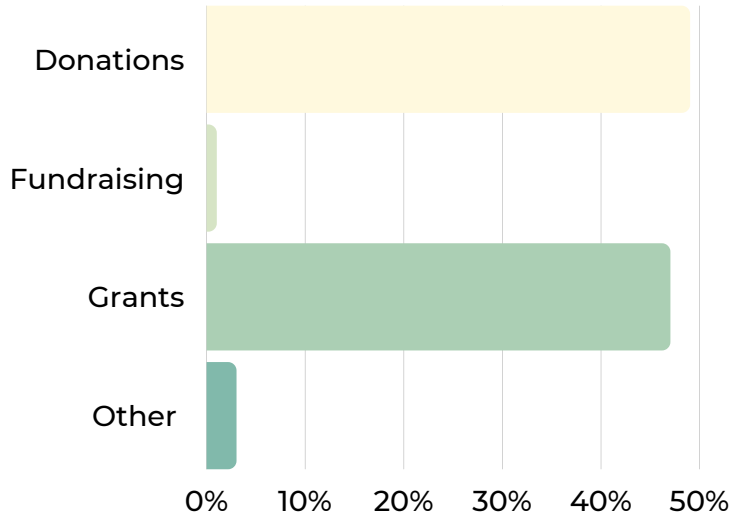
VIRTUAL LEARNING

In March of 2020, Literal Change transitioned all its services to virtual learning. This has allowed us to scale our volunteer and student base in order to reach more learners in underserved communities across the GTA.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

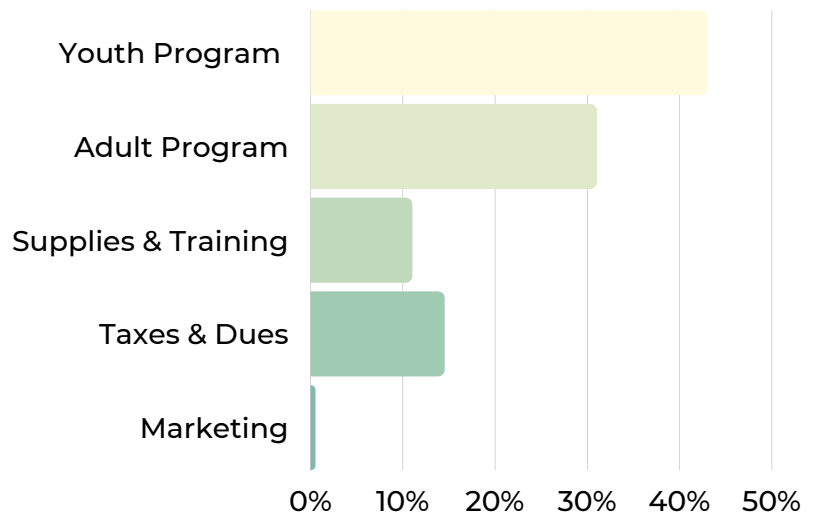
\$189K

TOTAL REVENUE



\$108

TOTAL EXPENSES



Thank you to our funders!



TORONTO FOUNDATION



2021 AND BEYOND

2021 has been a year of innovation, collaboration, and community building

2020 was one of the most difficult years of our life-time, and the repercussions of the pandemic will be felt most within our education, justice, and mental health systems. Literal Change is working around the clock to prepare for the fall out so that we can continue to meet demand and address the literacy needs of system-impacted communities across the GTA.

In October 2021, Literal Change will launch its virtual learning system and begin training educators across the Toronto District School Board in the effective and proven approaches of Orton-Gillingham. This self-directed Literacy Specialist Course will equip teachers and educators with the tools to address the needs of students who are struggling with low-literacy levels and learning exceptionalities.

Thus far, we have spent the majority of 2021 building, testing, and perfecting this training tool so that we are able to offer a program that can be easily implemented and accessed by educators across Canada.

In order to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline through the lens of literacy, we at Literal Change believe that all students require equitable access to effective literacy intervention.

TESTIMONIALS

"Watching my student improve with every lesson has been an immensely rewarding experience. It feels good to know that I'm making a tangible difference in someone's life. Plus, I love supporting an organization that works so hard to dismantle the barriers to education faced by marginalized youth" -Literal Change Volunteer

"I've learned so much from volunteering with Literal Change in the Adult Literacy program. Through their training I've expanded my skills for teaching reading and writing, I've learned about the perspectives of adult learners, it's opened my eyes to the possible barriers to literacy that people face, and I've gotten to work with wonderful students and fellow volunteers. This organization is doing amazing work, and I'm grateful to be a part of it!" -Literal Change Volunteer

READ MORE AT
[LITERALCHANGE.COM](https://literalchange.com)



OUR TEAM

GROUND CREW

ERIN LEIGH
YLI PROGRAM COORDINATOR

DINA YAGHI
ADULT LITERACY MANAGER

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

MARTHA JODHAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROBYN KEYSTONE
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