



ENGLISH LEARNING CENTER

A learning community of refugees, immigrants and advocates.
Our mission is building knowledge for better lives and livelihoods.

Each year, in daytime and evening classes, our staff and volunteer teachers help more than 500 adult students from more than 30 countries develop the fundamental skills they need to:

- Gain employment or better jobs
- Become U.S. citizens
- Help their children succeed in school
- Navigate a new culture and new community

We make a difference.
With your help, we can do more.

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oscs-mn.org

Our Saviour's Community Services is a 501(c)3 that provides oversight and legal governance for Our Saviour's Housing and the English Learning Center. OSCS is an independent, nonsectarian, social services agency.



ENGLISH LEARNING CENTER



A program of:



Increasing Skills, Improving Lives



WHAT WE PROVIDE

FOR OUR STUDENTS

- **Morning and Evening Classes** in English, Math, Computers, and Citizenship.
- **A School Van** to provide transportation to and from classes each day.
- **A School Garden:** This extracurricular activity allows students to practice English informally while also growing fresh, healthful food for their families.
- **Special Presentations:** We host special presentations from community groups to teach students about important topics, such as how to file taxes and how to ride the bus.
- **Interpretation:** Staff are able to interpret for students who speak Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Oromo, Amharic, Arabic, Italian, and French.
- **Referrals:** We maintain an extensive database of community resources so students can find assistance with issues beyond the scope of our school.

FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Opportunities to meet some of your newest neighbors, learn about other cultures, and have a chance to travel the world without leaving home.
- Educational opportunities, including volunteer service projects, speaking engagements, and classroom tours.
- The entire community is strengthened when newcomers are able to gain the skills they need to navigate a new culture and contribute more to their new country.

THE ENGLISH LEARNING CENTER VS. LANGUAGE BARRIERS

- Each year, we offer classes to immigrants and refugees from more than 30 countries. We do so in a culturally sensitive, but not culturally specific, way. We believe in empowering the newest members of the community to reach the goals they set for themselves.
- The English Learning Center is a part of the Minneapolis Consortium of Public Schools, but less than half of our funding comes from the public school system. The rest comes from grants and from donations by organizations and individuals like you!
- Staff from the ELC and OSCS are happy to accept invitations to speak to groups about the important work we do.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

VOLUNTEER.

We rely on volunteers to teach most classes at the English Learning Center. Would you like to help – but are not sure teaching is the right fit for you? To learn more, visit our website (www.oscs-mn.org). Or contact us at 612.874.9963x2., or at volunteer@englishlc.org.

DONATE.

Partner with us financially. Every dollar helps! To make a monetary or in-kind gift, call our Development Director at 612.871.5900 ext.3. Your donation to the English Learning Center is tax-deductible ... and much appreciated.

Donations of supplies help keep costs down. Commonly needed items include pre-sharpened pencils, coffee creamer, electric pencil sharpeners, and white copy paper. Call our Volunteer Coordinator at 612.874.9963 ext.2 to make a supply donation.

ADVOCATE AND EDUCATE.

Schedule a tour of our classrooms for your business or group. Or host one of our speakers at your site. Call our Development Director at 612.871.5900 ext. 3 for more information.

