

# Life Goals *achieved!*

## at Blue Ridge Literacy

July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020

In the Fiscal Year 2019-2020, BRL continued to support the achievement of life goals by providing opportunities to strengthen literacy skills to adults in Southwest Virginia. Over the past year, we adapted our services to address the pressing needs of our learners and community. BRL now offers Online English services at three levels of Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced as well as online Citizenship Preparation classes. We have utilized our various community partnerships to provide cross-sectional literacy services targeting areas such as Financial and Health Literacy and information about available community resources and services. In response to the increasing shift towards online modes of interaction, all BRL services have incorporated a digital literacy component. BRL plans to continue to provide adult learners with the functional literacy skills they need to safely interact in everyday settings, improve their lives, meet their goals, and become active participants of our community.

### LEARNERS

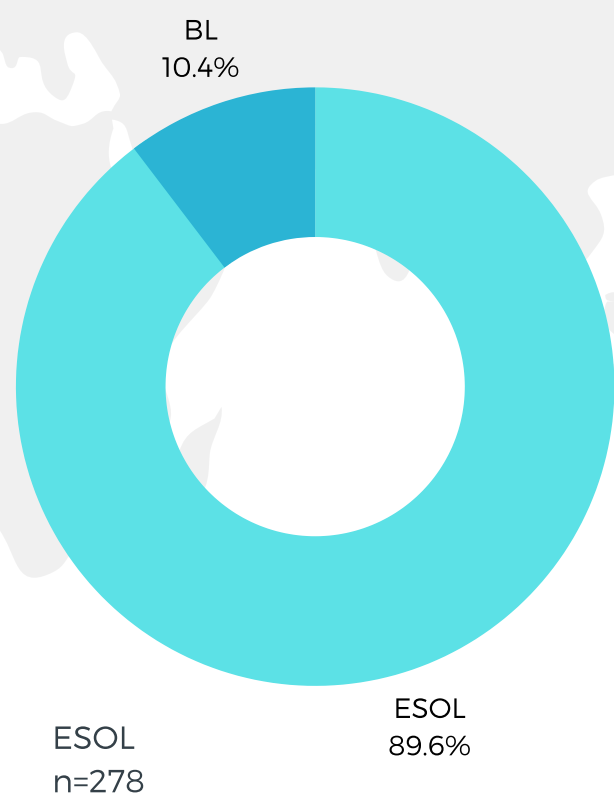
**278**  
enrolled in  
ESOL classes

**103**  
worked with a  
1:1 tutor

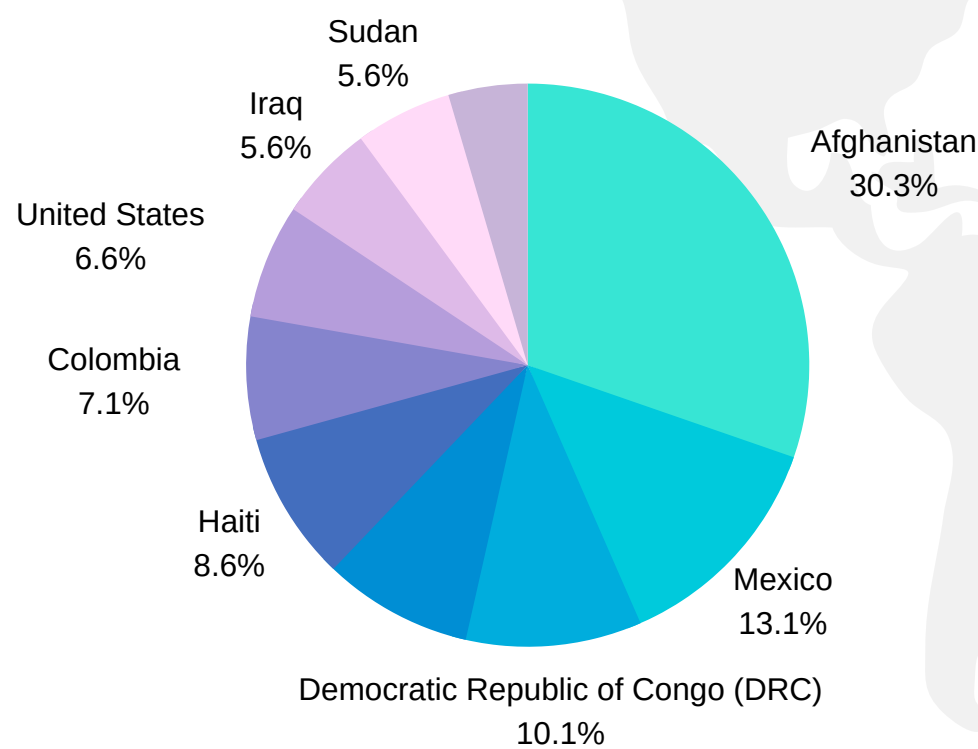
**57**  
improved Health  
Literacy Skills

**23**  
improved  
Employability Skills

**5**  
became US  
citizens



Roanoke's diverse immigrant and refugee community is reflected in the students we see at BRL. 89% of our population are ESOL learners



Our ESOL learners came from 57 countries last year. The top five countries represented were Afghanistan, Mexico, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Honduras and Haiti

### VOLUNTEERS

**7300** total  
instruction and  
volunteer hours

In FY 19-20 BRL's volunteers and instructors allocated 7300 hours to train over 300 learners in one-on-one and classroom settings.

**173**  
total # of  
literacy  
volunteers

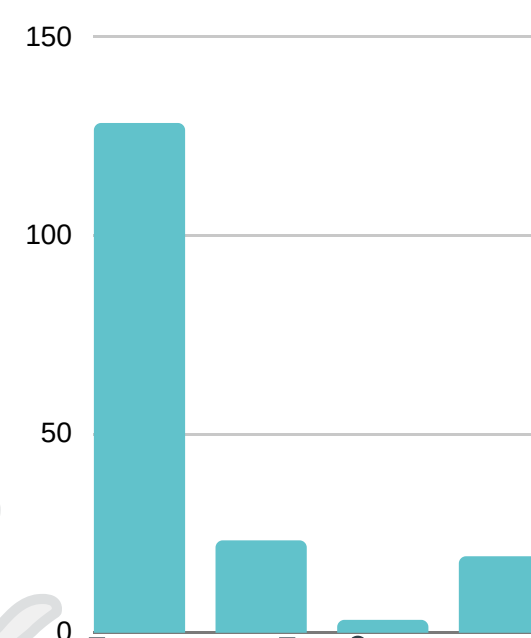
**40**  
new volunteers  
engaged

**100%**  
of volunteers  
who left in 2019  
completed their  
commitment

Who volunteers?



Women make up 70% of volunteers at BRL n=122



Most BRL literacy volunteers live in Roanoke City n=128

Life goals through literacy