

## Kosciusko County Statistics

### THE NEED FOR LITERACY

Kosciusko County, Indiana, has a population over 78,620. Warsaw, the county seat, is the headquarters to many orthopedic manufacturers. Agriculture is also a prominent industry in the county. Hispanics comprise approximately 7.8% of the population.

Kosciusko County has an estimated 9% adult illiteracy rate. This percentage translates to 5,500 people over age 16 needing improvement in basic prose literacy.

An estimated 14.6% of the adult population over 25 do not have a high school diploma or equivalency diploma.

The poverty rate in 2015 was 10.0%, and the poverty rate for children under eighteen was 13.8%. The median household income was \$54,147. Single parent households numbered 2,214. Food Stamp recipients totaled 6,331. Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) participants numbered 2952.

In 2016, the Free and Reduced Lunch Recipients numbered 6,209, which translates to 46.5% of students participating in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

In 2016, Kosciusko County had an annual unemployment rate of 4.0%.

(Stats Indiana; stats.indiana.edu/profiles/; National Assessment of Adult Literacy; Kids Count Database)



# Kosciusko Literacy Services Annual Report 2016



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To make a lasting improvement in society, the cycle of poverty and illiteracy needs to be broken. Education is the best defense against poverty, and literacy is the foundation of all education.

Literacy is the cornerstone of personal and societal freedom and liberty.  
—Cynthia L. Cates

**Kosciusko Literacy Services**  
*Building our community,  
one reader at a time.*

## Kosciusko Literacy Services Board of Directors

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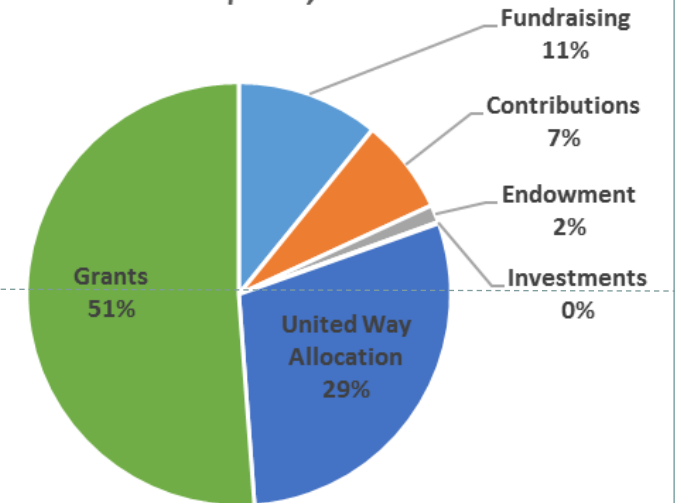
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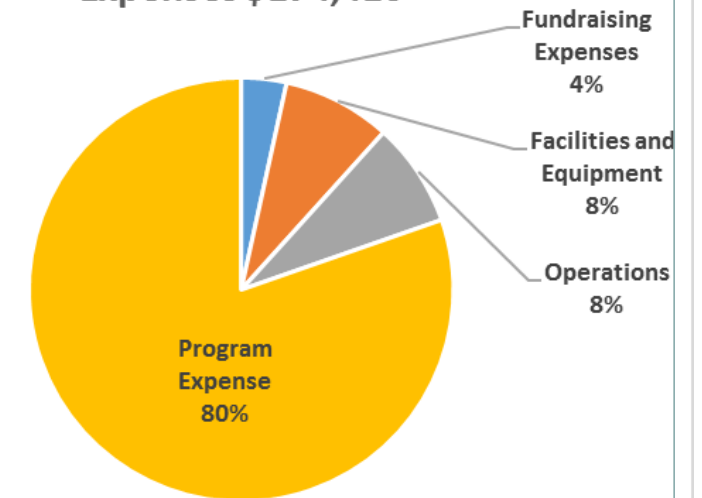
### Staff

Cynthia L. Cates  
Executive Director  
Linda S. Tinkey  
Public Relations  
Director

## Income \$202,000.



## Expenses \$174,410



## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LITERACY!

### Gifts above \$30,000

First Book National Book Bank  
United Way of Kosciusko County

### Gifts of \$3,000 to \$15,000

Bertsch Family Charitable Foundation  
The Dekko Foundation  
The Dollar General Literacy Foundation  
The Franklin I. and Irene List Saemann  
Foundation

Kenneth and Lela Harkless Fund  
Warsaw Community Schools,  
In-Kind Gift

### Gifts of \$1,000 to \$2,999

The Bruce and Jeanne Grossnickle  
Family Foundation Fund,  
a component fund of the Kosciusko County  
Community Foundation

Dr. Dane and Mary Louise Miller  
Foundation

Esther Pfeleiderer Charitable Trust  
Jerry and Norma Ferguson  
Indiana Humanities

Learning Solutions / Lois Niemier  
Maple Leaf Farms

Medtronic Spinal and Biologics  
The Papers, Inc.

R.R. Donnelley and Sons, Inc.  
The Steven and Lori Grossnickle Family  
Foundation Fund,

a component fund of the Kosciusko County  
Community Foundation  
Teachers Credit Union

### Gifts to \$999

Anonymous  
Larry and Lee Bair  
Donn and Linda Baird  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Beehler  
Mr. & Mrs. Don Brown  
Jeri Burkhart  
Neal and Joy Carlson  
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Carroll  
Cynthia Cates  
Ann Chubb  
Columbian Reading Circle  
DePuy Synthes Joint Reconstruction

Cindy Dobbins

Mr. Dick Dobbins

Dr. Tom Edington

Dr. Elliot Engel

Rebecca R. Faught

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Frazzetta

Ms. Julia Frew

Eugenia Fulkerson

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In Memory of Robert Gephart

Mary Geyer

Mr. & Mrs. R. Douglas Grant

Hand Family Foundation

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Dr. and Mrs. Lee Harmon

Lee and Mary Hartle

Rick and Frieda Helm

Dr. Charles Hollar

Dr. Steven and Jennifer Hollar

Milton and Marie Holmgrain

S.K. Hoskins

Thom and Zoe Howard

Duane Huffer and Beth Rasor Huffer

Dr. & Mrs. Dean Jansen

Johnson & Johnson Quality Systems and  
Services

Kralis Enterprises, LP

Carol Kloser

Kosciusko County Community  
Foundation

Mazie Kreiker

Michael and Rebecca Kubacki

Mrs. Patricia Lenke

Scott Lennox

Mr. and Mrs. Chad Miner

Medtronic Spinal and Biologics

Mrs. Jan Monteith

David Neff

Marcia Parker

Ramsey and Wiggins, In-Kind Gift

Christine Reneker

Dan and Lori Reynolds

Schroeder Insurance

Loran and Linda Sims

Carl Snyder and Rita Schobert Snyder

Mark and Karen Stevens

Paul and Martha Stoelting

Mrs. Ann R. Strong

Jim and Linda Tinkey

Michelle R. Wedeven

Williams-LLC

Sue Williamson

Kirk Zuber

Ann Zydek

### Memorial Donations for Don Chilcote

Warren and Sue Binkley

Eldon and Kay Chilcote

Martha Jane Chilcote

Merle and Martha Chilcote

Rob and Lori deSomer

Cary and Tonya Holman

Gary and Kay Otis

Ronald and Sue Pence

Syracuse Church of God

Bob and Georgia Tenney

Irene and Tim Wagley

Sheldon Wright

### Special Thanks to

The Kosciusko Literacy Services Board  
of Directors

Outgoing Board Member, Delores Hearn

Bell Memorial Public Library

Milford Public Library

North Webster Com. Public Library

Pierceton Public Library

Syracuse Public Library

Warsaw Community Public Library

The Altrusa Club of Warsaw

Gateway Education Center Staff and  
Students

The Kiwanis Club of Warsaw

Warsaw Adult Education

Dr. Dennis Gaerte

Kosciusko County Jail Staff

Community Partners of Read to Grow  
Children's Book Club

## HIGHLIGHTS

In 2016, 768 children from low-income homes each received monthly book selections in Read to Grow Children's Book Club .

Parents of children enrolled in Read to Grow Children's Book Club read a combined 15,102 hours to their children.

Along with other early literacy initiatives, Read to Grow Children's Book Club has shown positive results. The passing rate of the Third Grade ISTEP Language Arts for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program in Kosciusko County is over 6% higher than that of the state, while the Paid Lunch rate less than 1% higher. Nearly 50% of the Read to Grow Children's Book Club graduates made the fourth grade honor roll.

In collaboration with Warsaw Adult Education, WorkOne, and the Kosciusko County Jail, 63 adults earned an Indiana High School Equivalency Diploma, and 11 completed the requirements for Workplace Certification.

239 adults enrolled at Warsaw Adult Education improved their skill levels.



*Opening books opens the world!*

## Volunteer Tutors

Priya Aruchamy

Karen Dawson

Ken Beres

Joel Harter

Alyx Hays

Mythili Munichchetty

Jakki Pedraza  
Patrick Ray

Christian Treber

Justin Wilder  
&

Susan Williamson