

LITERACY LINKS

All services, except ESOL books, are provided without charge to participants.

Haverstraw Literacy Zone Family Welcome Center

Articles of Interest

- * President's Corner
- Meet the Board
- New Citizen
- New LSNY Team Member

Community Calendar

- Haverstraw Collaborative
1st Wed. of the Month
Haverstraw Center
(845)429-5731
- Rockland Immigration Coalition
(845) 634-3391
- Haverstraw Literacy Zone
845 499-5464 X 3
- North Rockland Central School District
845 942-3000
- Haverstraw Village Hall
40 New Main Street
(845) 429-0300
Village Board Meeting
1 & 3rd Monday of Each Month

HAPPY 2023 TO ALL

Welcome to 2023!!

As we begin the New Year, Literacy Solutions NY (LSNY) sends all good wishes to HLZ Stakeholders, colleagues, students, and clients in Haverstraw and throughout Rockland County.

In the weeks and months ahead, we look forward to continuing to provide expanded ESOL classes, one-to-one tutoring sessions, citizenship services including "Citizenship Prep" classes, and case management to Village of Haverstraw residents, as well as residents in all corners of Rockland County.

Please note that case management provides a wide array of services including:

- Accessing vital services
- Assistance with employment research and completing employment

applications

- Referral to agencies specializing in housing and food insecurity remedies
- Translations
- Assistance with educational issues
- Referral to services addressing domestic violence issues
- Referral to agencies offering assistance with substance abuse concerns

In addition, LSNY also offers community seminars on topics of interest to local residents, including

- Know Your Rights
- Tenants Rights
- Home Safety

LSNY is looking forward to a healthy & successful year ahead for everyone we serve.

Partners in the HLZ

- American Job Center
- Haverstraw Center & Haverstraw Collaborative
- Catholic Charities Community Services
- Haverstraw African American Connection
- Haverstraw King's Daughters Library
- Haverstraw Elementary School
- Head Start of Rockland
- North Rockland Central School District
- Rockland County Dept. of Social Services
- Rockland County Work Force Development Bd
- Rockland Community College
- Rockland County YMCA
- United Way of Rockland
- Village of Haverstraw
- Literacy Solutions NY

COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN HAVERSTRAW

Haverstraw Center

50 West Broad Street
845 429-5731

Family, Children and Youth, Educational Programs. Counseling, Sports & Recreation.

Monday thru Saturday

WestCop

17 West Broad Street
(845) 728-0688

Food Pantry, Employment

Assistance , Clothing , Furniture
Monday thru Friday

Haverstraw King's Daughters Library

Main Branch 10 W. Ramapo Rd. Garnerville (845) 786-3800

Village Branch 85 Main Street, Haverstraw (845) 429-3445

Adult, children & teen programs, programs, library cards, digital services, book clubs & more.

Open 7 days a week.

Please take advantage of the many resources your community provides for you.

They are here to help you achieve your goals.



December 2022

Haverstraw Elementary School Principal, Benito Herrero, accepting a donation to Haverstraw Elementary School from Rotary Club of North Rockland Treasurer, Eileen Lima.

MEET THE BOARD **BENITO HERRERO, PRINCIPAL** **HAVERSTRAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Born and educated in Spain, Benito Herrero arrived in the US in 1987. He joined the NYC Board of Education, specializing in adult education. While with the BOE, he became GED Administrator and, later Principal of James Monroe High School in the South Bronx.

Mr. Herrero joined the North Rockland Central School District in 2007. He became Principal of Haverstraw Elementary School in 2012, one year before the Haverstraw Literacy Zone (HLZ) opened its doors. In fact, in addition to Mayor Michael Kohut and Marion Breland of Haverstraw Center, Principal Herrero was one of the first to welcome LSNY to Haverstraw. Since the HLZ began operating, Principal Herrero has opened his school to

ensure that Literacy Solutions had adequate space to serve all who wanted to enroll in ESOL classes .

In addition to classroom space, he has provided space for Community Presentations on topics relevant to the residents of this diverse community and space for child care during evening classes. “Know Your Rights”, “Accessing Health Insurance”, “Bullying”, and “Child Safety”, have been among the topics presented.

Mr. Herrero, a strong proponent of adult education, has gone above and beyond to make his school a true community resource. Literacy Solutions greatly appreciates his dedication and generosity to our adult education students.

Following several years of rewarding work with Benito Herrero, the agency Board of Directors asked him to become a member of the Board . He was unanimously elected to the LSNY Board.

Mr. Herrero has said “It is an honor to be on the Board of LSNY”. As a Board member, he participates in quarterly meetings to discuss agency activities, including ongoing support for adult education and citizenship services, and possible expansion as required by evolving community needs.

Thank you Benito Herrero for being such an important member of the LSNY family!



Patricia Rajala, LSNY Pres/CEO

During the very difficult early days of COVID-19, Literacy Solutions NY learned valuable lessons about the many ways our services can be successfully delivered, and how flexible and resilient our organization is.

From the first “deer in the headlights” staff meeting on Zoom in April 2020, through mutual and supportive learning for all staff, to the successful implementation of online classes, tutoring sessions, citizenship services, and case management, LSNY continued to serve our students throughout Rockland and Westchester.

Our library partners were integral in providing Zoom instruction to many tutors unfamiliar with the app. The tutors realized that they had found a way to keep in touch with not only students, but family members as well. It was a win-win all around.

Our teachers/tutors used a You Tube video, filmed in Spanish by one of our instructors, that showed students how to access Zoom, WhatsApp, and other useful apps while they participated in online classes and tutoring sessions. And students loved it, because it removed the two biggest barriers to participation by adult learners – child care and transportation.

Online learning is not for everyone. But it is a great tool for adult learners. LSNY hopes that we will be able to continue to offer it as a supplement to more traditional educational settings.

Thank you to all who helped LSNY navigate the many challenges presented by COVID-19

“Citizenship Services” *Provided By Literacy Solutions NY*

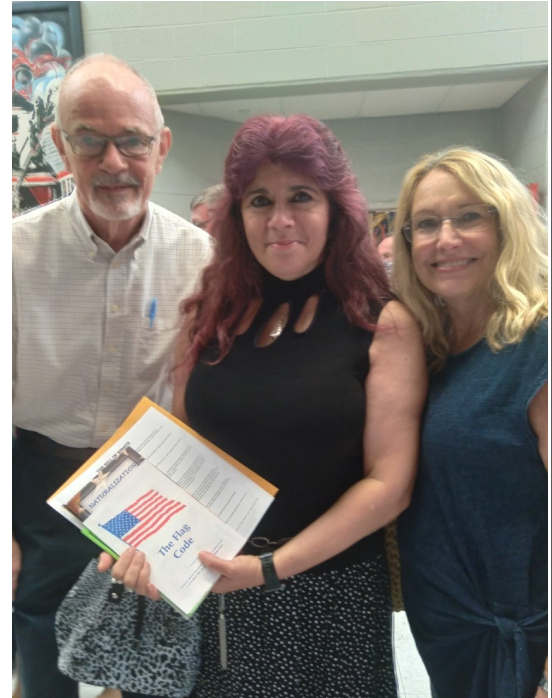
Literacy Solutions NY, Inc. is honored to be one of a select group of agencies recognized and accredited by the US Dept. of Justice to assist eligible permanent residents complete and file applications to become United States citizens.

Literacy Solutions citizenship assistance does not end when the application is completed and filed.

To give applicants every opportunity to successfully complete the process and fulfill their goal of becoming US citizens, Literacy Solutions offers:

- ◆ Citizenship Classes, including coverage of all aspects of the citizenship test & face-to-face interview, as well as mock interviews;
- ◆ One-to-One Short & Long Term Assistance from specially trained citizenship guides designed to enhance students' confidence and knowledge.

[LSNY would be pleased to help you become an American citizen.](#)
[Call us at \(845\) 502-0114 for complete information about eligibility requirements and services available.](#)



New citizen Andrea Mondanos, with LSNY volunteer Robin Wren & LSNY Immigration attorney Thomas McGrath, proudly holding her naturalization certificate after taking the oath of citizenship.

Welcome Celia Coronel -Dizzine *New Lead Case Manager for the Haverstraw Literacy Zone* *& Literacy Solutions*

Celia Coronel-Dizzine joined the staff of Literacy Solutions on Oct. 17, 2022. as the new Lead Case Manager. She has stepped into the role previously held by Gricelda Serrano. Celia has big shoes to fill, but she is working hard to make the job her own, and to continue bringing case management services to Rockland residents in need of assistance. Celia arrived in the US from Mexico in 1999 on a tourist visa. She struggled to learn a new language, enroll in school, and become acclimated to a new county and a new culture. Gradually, Celia began to feel that her adopted county would become her forever home. She made new friends, met & married her husband, Timothy Dizzine, and began thinking about becoming a US citizen. As the spouse of a US citizen, her path to citizenship was a bit smoother than for other immigrants. In 2013, Celia enrolled in LSNY's Citizenship Prep classes, worked with volunteer Jane Lemkin, and in 2014, Celia was sworn in as an American Citizen. In that same year, she began working as an Assistant Teacher with LSNY. Celia continues to teach ESOL classes for LSNY, but now, in her new role as Lead Case Manager, she not only helps people learn the English language, she helps them access vital services, become advocates for their families, helps them overcome challenges, and encourages them to become self-sustaining members of their communities.

[WELCOME CELIA- WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU !](#)



LSNY Lead Case Manager
Celia Coronel-Dizzine

Literacy Solutions NY, Inc.

Patricia Rajala
President & CEO

Westchester County Office
Yonkers Riverfront Library
1 Larkin Center
Yonkers, NY 10701
(914) 375-7964

Rockland County Office
61 New Main Street
Haverstraw, NY 10927
(845) 499-5464 x 3

Rockland Tutor Center
Nanuet Public Library
149 Church Street
Nanuet, NY 10954
(845) 708-9072

Haverstraw Literacy Zone
61 New Main Street
Haverstraw, NY 10927
(845) 429-5464 x3

Literacy Solutions NY
Citizenship Services
61 New Main Street
Haverstraw, NY 10927
(845) 502-0114

ESOL Class information
(845) 825-6141

Citizenship Class
Information
(845) 358-3420

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for

LITERACY STUDENTS and

CITIZENSHIP HOPEFULS

***YOUR DONATION
OF TIME and
EXPERTISE CAN
CHANGE A LIFE!***

Literacy Solutions
NY INC.

Funding for Literacy Solutions NY is provided by the New York State Education Dept., Rockland County Office of Community Development, County of Rockland, the Levy/VonWald Foundation, the Wallbridge Fund, Finkelstein memorial Library and private donors.

Literacy Solutions NY, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing student-centered literacy and citizenship services to adults in Westchester and Rockland counties, specialized services through the Haverstraw Literacy Zone, and is a community resource for the advancement of literacy in both counties.

The Haverstraw Literacy Zone Family Welcome Center



Helping you towards a brighter future

SERVICES PROVIDED IN WESTCHESTER AND ROCKLAND

Literacy Solutions NY has been providing services in Westchester County since 1983. In 2006, Literacy Volunteers of Rockland and Literacy Solutions NY joined forces to serve students in all sections of both counties.

Services offered by Literacy Solutions NY include:

- US Civics for Immigrants
- Case Management
- English Classes
- Basic Literacy
- One-to-One Tutoring
- Tutor Training
- Haverstraw Literacy Zone
- Citizenship Services

Westchester County Contacts:

Teresa Avila, Administrative Coordinator, Jenny Mosquera, Yonkers Coordinator, Laura Doty, Northern Westchester Tutor Program

Manager, Jordana Rogers, Data Associate, work together to bring literacy services to all corners of Westchester County. Our students hail from many communities, and we offer services county-wide, in both Rockland and Westchester. For information on Westchester services, please contact Teresa or Jenny at 914 375-7964, Laura at (914) 844-8026

Activities offered in Rockland County are similar to those in Westchester, but include the additional services offered by the Haverstraw Literacy Zone.

HLZ and LSNY activities include:

- ESOL Classes
- Job Readiness
- Community Workshops
- Case Management
- Citizenship Classes & Services
- Skills Development

Rockland County Contacts:

Anne Carey-Colorado
Communications, HLZ & Citizenship Program Manager
(845) 502-0114

Celia Coronel-Dizzine
Lead Case Manager
(845) 323-3665

Lisa Delmonico
DOJ Accredited Representative
Citizenship Prep Teacher
(845) 358-3420

Ana Diaz
Academic Coordinator
(845) 825-6141

Christina Mandara
Tutor Program Manager
(845) 708-9072

Thomas McGrath
Immigration Attorney
(845) 502-0114

LSNY is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.