



ENGLISH AT LARGE

Fall 2020 Fundraising Appeal English At Large Programs are at Risk of Closing

These are truly stressful times for everyone, but most especially for local immigrants, who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Many are essential workers living in multiple generation households, placing them at high risk of infection and transmission. In addition, those with limited English skills do not have knowledge of local resource systems, and culture and language are barriers that prevent them from asking for help. These learners are often isolated and vulnerable to exploitation and loss.

Your donation is needed today, to ensure the health and safety of local immigrants, by supporting their continued learning, and helping them feel safe and connected in these uncertain times.

Thanks to the commitment of our volunteers, we have successfully transitioned all services online, and all programs are fully enrolled. More programs now run in the evening, to better serve learners who have to juggle remote work and home schooling among their many challenges. The pandemic has made life more stressful, but our learners are resilient, and remain committed to working hard to achieve their life goals.

Despite this success, English At Large programs are at risk. COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the local economy, making it necessary for many individuals, businesses and foundations to scale back their philanthropic support. As a result, since July 1st, we have seen a loss of almost \$10,000 in revenues from what we once considered stable sources. In addition, at the state level, Massachusetts is dealing with a substantial drop in revenues, and the Legislature has postponed the state budget for FY2021 until November 30. This means that EAL is not receiving revenues from our state earmark, an additional loss of more than \$33,000 in sustaining funds to date. This perfect storm of fiscal uncertainty puts the future of English At Large at risk.

Your donation NOW will keep local programs from closing due to COVID-19.

To survive, EAL must cover operating expenses with private dollars at least through December 31st, which is the earliest we can expect to begin to draw on our state earmark. Our board is actively fundraising, and are **committed to matching \$5,000 in new donations dollar for dollar**, with an overall goal to raise \$20,000 in private donations by year end. We are doing everything we can to sustain our programs, which are essential to the health and success of hundreds of local immigrants. **If English At Large ceased to exist, where would these learners go?**

Each year, English At Large serves hundreds of local immigrants who come to this country by choice, to pursue a better life for themselves and their families. **Please give today, to ensure that the local programs they depend on remain available, especially now, when they need them the most.**

Make your donation online today at https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/iKqG6zIn8AkXyeNM-zsTbg

Or send a check made payable to English At Large to 800 West Cummings Park, Suite 5550, Woburn, MA 01801

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Maureen Willis, Executive Director at 781-395-2374 or via email at ed@englishatlarge.org

Thank you for supporting the success of local immigrants, through your contribution to English At Large.