



C M L C
C O R V A L L I S
M U L T I C U L T U R A L
L I T E R A C Y C E N T E R

2020
2021

SUCCESSES AND
ACHIEVEMENTS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Programs	1 - 12
	1.1 English Courses	
	1.2 Health Classes	
	1.3 Adventuring in English	
	1.4 Tutoring for English Language Learning K-12 Students	
	1.5 Conversations Partner Program	
	1.6 English/Health Conversation Circles	
	1.7 Citizenship and Naturalization Support	
	1.8 DACA	
2	Events	13 - 18
	2.1 Block Party	
	2.2 Multicultural Summer Gatherings	
	2.3 CMLC Online Bazaar	
	2.4 Fundraising Events with Here to Stay OSU	
	2.5 Covid-19 Vaccination Events with Benton County and Good Samaritan	
3	Sponsors	19 - 22

The Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center has been operating as a community resource center since 2005. Each year over 6,000 people, including immigrants, refugees, migrants, international students, international families, and people of color of all ages from newborn infants (who utilize our childcare services) on up to volunteers in their 90's.

During COVID-19, the center's programming switched to remote delivery, allowing the CMLC to increase our reach to rural communities across Oregon as well as abroad. During the pandemic, programs have included:

- Serving as a 2020 census assistance center
- COVID-19 and health education resources and classes
- English Language Learner K-12 student tutoring and mentoring
- Citizenship and naturalization support services
- Financial aid for Dreamers and DACA applicants
- English classes and conversation circles

- Spanish and English meditation classes
- Our conversation partner program
- Our block-party event
- Providing resources for the school district

The center's staff members include the Executive Director, the Program Coordinator and Development Coordinator, the Administrative & Financial Assistant, and the Outreach Coordinator. Recent activities have focused on children and families; community building, health, citizenship, civic engagement and voting rights, and recent accomplishments include assembling a strong leadership team and switching to remote delivery of the center's programs and services during COVID.

programs

- English Courses
- Health Classes
- Adventuring in English
- Tutoring for English Language Learning K-12 Students
- Conversations Partner Program
- English/Health Conversation Circles
- Citizenship and Naturalization Support
- DACA

English Courses

One of the most popular programs CMLC offers is beginning to intermediate level English courses for adult English Language Learner students. These classes are taught by highly qualified ESL teachers who volunteer their time and expertise to help second language learners not only improve their English, but to create a community of learners and foster relationships. Classes are kept to a 12-student maximum and the class sessions are almost always full. During these difficult times, the students benefited not only from the instruction in English as a Second Language, but also from finding support among the CMLC community, and having a place to talk about health (mental, emotional, and physical).

Fall 2020 Classes



CMLC FALL TERM CLASSES
(Online via Zoom)
Please email melody@cmlccenter.org to register

- Beginning Reading and Speaking**
Wednesdays, 11:00am - 12:30pm, Oct. 7 - Dec. 9
- High Beginning Reading, Speaking and Writing**
Mondays, 9:30am - 11:00am, Sep. 28 - Nov. 30
- Intermediate Pronunciation**
Fridays, 9:30am - 11:00am, Oct. 2 - Dec. 11
- Intermediate Health Class**
Wednesdays, 2:00-3:00pm, Oct. 7 - Nov. 11
- All Levels Meditation and Stress Reduction**
Wednesdays, 2:00-3:00pm, Nov. 18 - Dec. 9

Donations are welcome: <https://unlcenter.networkforgood.com/>

Winter 2021 Classes



CMLC WINTER TERM CLASSES
(On Zoom)
Please email melody@cmlccenter.org to register

- Beginning Speaking and Reading**
Tuesdays, 9:30 am - 11:00 am, Jan. 12 - Feb. 23
- Intermediate Grammar**
Fridays, 9:30 am - 11:00 am, Jan. 15 - March 5
- All Levels Meditation and Stress Reduction**
Wednesdays, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm, Starts on Jan. 6
- Intermediate Conversation Circle**
Wednesdays, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm, Starts on Jan. 6

Donations are welcome: <https://unlcenter.networkforgood.com/>

Spring 2021 Classes



CMLC Spring Term Classes
Contact Melody at melody@cmlccenter.org to register

- LEVEL A2 Beginning GRAMMAR & PRONUNCIATION**
Thursdays, 9:30 am to 11:00 am April 16 - May 14
- LEVEL A1-A2 Beginning SPEAKING AND READING**
Tuesdays, 9:30 am to 11:00 am April 16 - May 11
- LEVEL B1 Low Intermediate READING AND SPEAKING**
Tuesdays, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm April 16 - May 25
- LEVEL B2 Intermediate-Advanced EXPANDING VOCABULARY THROUGH READING AND WRITING**
Thursdays, 9:30 am to 11:00 am April 16 - May 14
- ALL LEVELS MEDITATION AND STRESS REDUCTION**
Wednesdays, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm April 16 - May 14

Donations are Welcome: <https://unlcenter.networkforgood.com/>

English Language Class fliers advertised through social media

2020-2021 English Courses

Fall Term 2020

28

Winter Term 2021

31

Spring Term 2021

30

Fall Term 2021

43

STUDENTS





- S. Korea
- Thailand
- Mexico
- Brazil
- Saudi Arabia
- Poland
- Chile
- Philippines
- Italy
- Japan
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Turkey
- Ecuador
- Bolivia
- Myanmar
- India
- El Salvador
- China

Health Classes

A grant from Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center allowed the **CMLC to offer an Intermediate Health Class**. This project focused on teaching English as a second language (ESL) learners about proactive self-care, staying healthy and navigating the healthcare system. The classes covered health vocabulary, conversations with health providers, filling out forms, using 911, talking on the phone and an overview of health services available in Benton and Linn Counties.

19

PEOPLE

About 19 people total participated, including underrepresented populations such as people of color, international community members, refugees, immigrants, non-native English speakers. Participants were able to enroll in-person and via Zoom. Our communities were also able to **access relevant and accurate information throughout the COVID-19 pandemic** through our communications in multiple languages.

Tutoring for English Language Learning K-12 Students

A grant from the United Way of Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties allowed the **CMLC to hire four-English language instructors for online tutoring for English language learner (ELL) K-12 students in Benton County.** With the support from ELL coordinators across Benton County School District's, the program reached full capacity within days (14+ students registered) and the benefits of the program include mentorship, resource referrals, and academic/language support to children.

2021 Tutoring Program

CMLC
CORVALLIS
MULTICULTURAL
LITERACY CENTER

ONE-ON-ONE ONLINE TUTORING
Presented by the
Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center
Tutoring Available January 25th - March 28th
QUALIFIED TUTORS, WITH DECADES OF
TEACHING EXPERIENCE

SUBJECTS AVAILABLE

KINDERGARTEN - 7TH GRADE

- Math
- Science
- English
- Social Studies
- Language Arts
- English Language Learning
- International Language Learning

8TH GRADE - 12TH GRADE

- English
- Social Studies
- Language Arts
- English Language Learning
- International Language Learning

Please contact Anne at annie@cmlc.org for more information, questions, or help filling out the form.

Application for tutoring:

<https://redirect.lc/9mc99uy>

www.cmlc.org

The Corvallis School District does not expressly warrant the organization or its activities. The District assumes no liability for its contents or errors arising out of this distribution.

14+

STUDENTS

Participants were primarily from South Korea, and were of various English language abilities.

CMLC tutors reported both successes and challenges as they met with students via Zoom, and were able to overcome language or technology problems that arose as they tutored students.

Adventuring in English



English Language Class flier

Another notable CMLC program that supported students was the “Adventuring in English: Conversational English Class for Middle School and High School Students”. This class involved ELL students in playing games and telling stories in a fun atmosphere.



Adventuring in English Summer Program

Thanks to funding from the **Oregon Community Foundation**, the Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center held another “Adventuring in English” program in August. The program was free and open to English language learning children.

The camp welcomed **12 students Kindergarten through 7th grade from diverse backgrounds around the world including Iraq, Mexico, the Philippines, South Korea, and China.** Students engaged in language learning and social-emotional development through team building activities, wellness workshops, field trips to local parks, and special guests

English/Health Conversation Classes and Circles

In the Spring of 2020, our CMLC education classes pivoted from in-class to online learning. We were able to continue serving our community of immigrants, families and students associated with OSU and, with the advent of an on-line learning platform, we even added some overseas students. Our students include OSU international students, scholars, and faculty as well as immigrants, refugees and other community members.



CMLC's Spring Conversation Circle on Zoom

Conversations Partner Program

Collaboration between the conversation partner programs in the community brought together **Oregon State University's**, Office of International Services, the CMLC, INTO OSU and the International Moms Group. With funding from the OSU Foundation - Women's Giving Circle, these groups collaborated to bring together even more community and international partners and to strengthen our programs and create a system of referrals and communication between organizations. Conversation partners continue to meet remotely during COVID-19, and speak highly of the benefits this networking opportunity provides.

A few years ago, I was involved in the Conversation Partner Program at Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center (CMLC). I have wonderful memories about my experiences with the people from the CMLC. People were so kind and warm in the time I could go to the CMLC. Nowadays, sometimes, I connect with a friend I met at CMLC via email or FaceTime. Definitely, to know the CMLC helps me to improve some aspects of my life, including my knowledge about the American culture and lifestyle of some Corvallis' people. I have the best impression about the programs OSU offers me at the time I was an international student.

Victor

When I first arrived in the United States, other international students and myself formed a close knit community of international friends and family for social and emotional support. Now, the resources at the center allow me to more easily expose my daughter to cultural items associated with her heritage including children's toys, textiles, pictures, maps, children's books and people. I can easily share my own, and my friend's, culture with her as she grows.

Ermie, Philippines



I have been doing a conversation partner program through the CMLC for the last year. My partner is Matthew and I met him in February, 2019. We are very different from each other in culture, language and ages. So, at that time, I didn't expect that our program and friendship would be successful. But, my partner was very sincere and thoughtful. We meet almost every week and have a conversation about the cultures, languages and other things. Through the program, I can learn and have a better understanding about the people and culture of the US more than before. Of course, it is also really helpful to practice my English. The best benefit of this program is to make a good friendship with my partner. After the coronavirus situation, we still have been doing the program through the Zoom meeting. I hope that our friendship will last for a long time.

Jaebin

I felt like the only au pair in Corvallis and found it hard to meet friends with my schedule. The CMCL is a great place that make me feel so happy because I met friends there when I felt lonely. I had the opportunity to make great memories with them! I met these friends at a joint event between the International Faculty & Scholar Coffee and an OSU Business class and we went for coffee, a picnic, a cup of tea and to India Night at OSU.

Mayra, Mexico

The OSU Folk Club, Crossroads International, CMLC and OSU Office of International Services have hosted the monthly OSU International Scholar Coffee Social since 2015. This event provides social support to visiting employees/scholars and their spouses, partners and family members. This event, and other CMLC resources, have helped our attendees feel valued and supported through connecting them to community groups, activities, and clothing/books/resources to share about their own culture and background.

Adria

The CMLC's Culture Kits that are used widely in the community and were at the Bring Your Kids to Campus Day event at Oregon State University are so helpful for making it more accessible for groups to learn about different cultures. I appreciate the work that the CMLC does to create a welcoming space for connection and communication across cultures.

Jennifer



Citizenship and Naturalization Support

The CMLC offers a variety of citizenship activities with support from the **Benton Community Foundation** and the **Collins Foundation: MRG Foundation** including citizenship and naturalization support and tutoring; information on voting and rights; and tools for civic engagement.



More than 70 people have become citizens through this program.

Throughout its organizational history, CMLC has promoted/encouraged participation of underrepresented community members through a variety of programs and initiatives including providing necessary support for naturalization/other immigration applications, translating documents, mentoring citizenship tutors, keeping and enhancing relevant resources, creating educational flyers and outreach in civic engagement, and offering new voter education.

The CMLC assisted the **DACA** and Dreamer student organization through Oregon State University's "**Here to Stay**" student organization and campus/Oregon/National DREAMers and Undocumented support services by partnering with SOAR Immigration Legal Services to hold presentations to educate, advocate and fundraise for DACA financial aid.

11

Beneficiaries



events

- Block Party
- Multicultural Summer Gatherings
- CMLC Online Bazaar
- Fundraising Events with Here to Stay OSU
- Covid-19 Vaccination Events with Benton County and Good Samaritan

Block Party



The City of Corvallis, Community Involvement & Diversity Advisory Board (CIDAB) awarded an empowerment grant for the CMLC to host a drive/walk through block party event for the CMLC to build community and create bridges between the Corvallis community and local cultural organizations and programs.



Over 150 bags were handed out to attendees with materials to learn about the CMLC and local multicultural summer programs. People also signed up for the conversation partner program and received food tickets to support a local restaurant. This was the first in-person event for the CMLC this year and CMLC staff, board members, English students, volunteers, community members and neighbors enjoyed the opportunity to connect, network and meet face to face.



Multicultural Summer Gatherings

Through generous funding from the Oregon Community Foundation, the CMLC was able to support summer program initiatives for multicultural families and children.

The CMLC's Early Childhood Summer Programming helped Linn, Benton and Polk families overcome the negative impacts of months of stress and isolation on learning and social-emotional health resulting from the COVID pandemic by offering interactive parent-child programs and activities that allow parents and their children to interact through art, stories, music, movement and cultural games. The play dates matched the summer schedule of the International Moms Group, Haven, Home, Crossroads International and the Bilingual PlayGroup, allowing many families to attend.

OVER

465

Children and Families

FREE

Multicultural Family Summer Gatherings

Join other multicultural families, women, children, and friends at different parks this summer! Activities include children's playdates, arts & crafts, snacks, and raffle prizes! This will be a fun way to connect with new friends, learn about different cultures, and engage in creative activities.

Partner Organizations

CMLC
COMMUNITY MULTICULTURAL LEADERS EXCHANGE

INTERNATIONAL MOMS GROUP

Home
HELPING OUR BROTHERS ENDS

GRUPO BILINGÜE
(BILINGUAL GROUP)

*Estimated over 465 children and families
visited our activity table*



An estimated 465 children and families visited our activity table and participated in arts and culture activities.

CMLC Online Bazaar

We have moved our annual bazaar to a virtual platform and listed vintage, collectible and cultural items there. It started as a Winter fundraising Online Bazaar then turned into an ongoing online store. All proceeds help support CMLC programming and services.



Fundraising Events with Here to Stay OSU

CMLC is partnering with Oregon State University's "Here to Stay" student organization to fundraise money to financially support DACA applicants. In regards of these events, we have collaborated with restaurants such as Los Vecinos (Albany), Tacos el Machin (Corvallis), Chipotle (Corvallis) and organized Zumbathon event over the past year.



Covid-19 Vaccination Events



The CMLC collaborated with Benton County Health Department and Samaritan Health Services on two vaccination clinics. Through promoting these events and registering members of our community, we helped to reduce barriers for individuals who may have otherwise faced challenges in accessing the vaccine.

sponsors

2019-2020 Financial Sponsors

Altrusa International of Corvallis Inc. (District Twelve) has continuously supported important work at the Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center, from providing volunteers in the Conversation Partner Program to purchasing bilingual dictionaries and children's books at the CMLC and planting bulbs and sprucing up the landscaping. Recent donations have supported the U.S. Citizenship classes and the English classes for printing of new materials, purchasing books and materials, English teacher stipends, and providing DACA application fee support.

Census Assistance Center Grant
CMLC assisted in collecting responses from hard to count

populations in the 2020 census.

Oregon Cultural Trust, through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) and appropriated funds to support the CMLC for necessary and unexpected expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, through the Social Accountability Grant allowed the CMLC to hold an Intermediate Health Class which provided English Language Learning students with information on proactive self-care, staying healthy and navigating the healthcare system.

sponsors

2020-2021 Financial Sponsors

The Collins Foundation/MRG Foundation awarded funds to support the CMLC's Citizenship and Naturalization Support Program.

Benton Community Foundation awarded the Elizabeth Starker Cameron Civic Engagement grant funds to support CMLC's Citizenship and Naturalization Support Program and civic engagement with underrepresented populations.

Oregon Community Foundation supported the CMLC during the COVID-19 pandemic with relief funding while the center's doors were closed and also funded the CMLC's two summer programs focused on Childhood Early Education (the multicultural family summer playgroups and the Adventuring in English programs).

Linn Benton Health Equity Alliance awarded funds to increase the presence of underrepresented groups and needs in the coalition and to increase involvement of underrepresented groups in policy and systems change across the community.

City of Corvallis, Community Involvement & Diversity Advisory Board (CIDAB) awarded an empowerment grant for the CMLC to host a drive through block party event for the CMLC to build community and create bridges between the Corvallis community and local cultural organizations and programs.

sponsors

Oregon Cultural Trust awarded a capacity grant to support building an organization-wide planning process that will increase the capacity and sustainability of CMLC's activities and programs to be implemented in a hybrid in-house/remote format, thus increasing access and expanding community.

United Way funded the CMLC's K-12 Tutoring Program for English Language Learning Children to support tutoring programs for children affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Oregon Health Authority - Public Health Division funded the CMLC's efforts in community engagement, education and outreach related to COVID-19.

2021 Financial Sponsors

Generous private donations by **CMLC donors** contribute to essential CMLC activities. With donors' help, we've provided stipends to our English language instructors, scholarships to DACA applicants applying for essential work authorization, and financial assistance through the citizenship loan program.

The CMLC has been awarded a grant from the **Oregon Community Recovery Fund, Michael and Jo Ann Mooser Fund of Oregon Community Foundation** to foster growth in staff expertise, develop a long-term strategic plan, improve financial stability, and strengthen relationships in Corvallis.

sponsors

2021-2022 Financial Sponsors

Oregon Cultural Trust awarded Organizational and Professional Development Grant funds for the CMLC to hire a consultant to engage the center's board, staff, volunteers and program users to design a strategic plan to move the center forward.

Benton Community Foundation awarded the Elizabeth Starker Cameron Civic Engagement Grant to the CMLC for Civic Engagement with Underrepresented Populations. The CMLC has successfully helped immigrants and refugees navigate the immigration and naturalization process to obtain U.S. citizenship and voting rights through the Citizenship and Naturalization Support program.

This program offers immigrants individual consultations in-person, on the phone or remotely; referrals to financial aid, immigration attorneys, and translation services; application review, study materials, and mock interviews; and presentations by citizenship, voting, and immigrant community organizations. Funds will be used to strengthen and expand these essential activities.

CMLC Strategic Planning

Oregon Cultural Trust awarded Organizational and Professional Development Grant funds for the CMLC to hire Rose City Philanthropy as a consultant to engage the center's board, staff, volunteers and program users to identify strategic priorities, and challenges; negotiate decisions and identify next steps; and summarize recommendations and provide resources and templates for next steps to move the CMLC forward.

Funds from the **Oregon Community Recovery Fund**, **Michael and Jo Ann Mooser Fund of Oregon Community Foundation** will be used to implement these strategic priorities to foster growth in staff expertise, implement a long-term strategic plan, improve financial stability, and refine the center's remote programming in order to build multicultural connections and relationships in Oregon.



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*The heart of the CMLC is in its sharing of cultures, languages,
experiences, and ideas.*

cmlcenter.org

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