

LITERACY PARTNERS

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June 2023

Dear Friend,

I have an inspiring story to share with you.

Meet Monica Bunay.

Monica came to Literacy Partners in 2020 to learn English. And here is how she sums up her time with us:

“My life has completely changed.”

It’s true. Monica has transformed her life through the power of literacy and she is working tirelessly to create a brighter future for her children. She embodies the values of our two-generation approach to literacy education and is living proof of what parents can accomplish when we provide the opportunity.

I know you get it. You understand that only with support from friends like you can we hire the teachers and organize the classes that enable Monica and other students like her to transform their lives.

As you read on, I hope you’ll renew your support of Literacy Partners with a gift and help us do more - enroll more parents and create the conditions for more families to thrive.

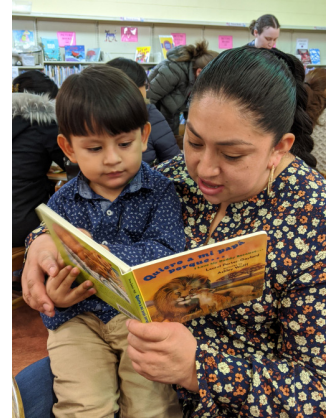
If Monica’s story were of an immigrant mom who went back to school - juggling family and work - to learn English and make a better life for her family, that would be inspiring enough.

But, Monica’s story is more than that.



Growing up in Ecuador, Monica dreamed of becoming a nurse, surrounding herself with friends, and living close to her grandfather who had raised her. However, her life took a different turn when her father moved the family to the United States in 2004.

It wasn't easy. Monica faced - and overcame - many challenges. After starting a family in New York and focusing on her children, Monica found our family literacy program for Spanish-speaking parents in 2020 through her child's PreK program. These workshops opened her eyes and provided her with valuable insight into all the ways that children learn outside the classroom and how she could create powerful moments of connection and learning for her children in her everyday routine.



Monica's generous spirit and love of learning created quite a ripple effect among the other parents at Literacy Partners and far beyond. We tapped her to become a family literacy facilitator, and trained her to use the computer. She now facilitates online workshops for parents in New York and across the country - through her hard work, nearly 200 parents have learned new ways of promoting their children's early learning.

All this while taking English classes! And not only studying, but growing into a leadership role of Parent Ambassador, helping with community outreach, assisting her teacher in running the class, and sharing resources and encouragement with the other students in the class chat group. The experience has awakened the dream she put on hold for nearly two decades: to become a nurse.

In Monica's own words:

“My life has completely changed. I've learned invaluable parenting skills, and I now read with my five-year-old every day. My nine-year-old is confidently reading on her own. I used to be intimidated by speaking in English, but not anymore. I've gained computer skills and am almost ready [for] nursing school!”

By contributing generously today, you are helping more parents enroll in our program and become the leaders they are capable of being.

Thank you for being an advocate of literacy and for joining us to create the opportunity for low-income and immigrant parents to transform their lives through the power of literacy.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Tassi'.

Anthony Tassi
Chief Executive Officer