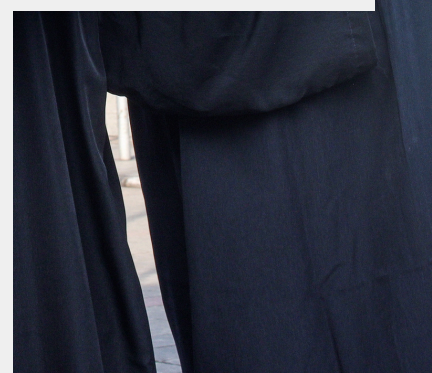
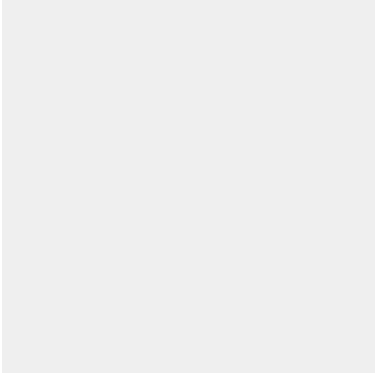
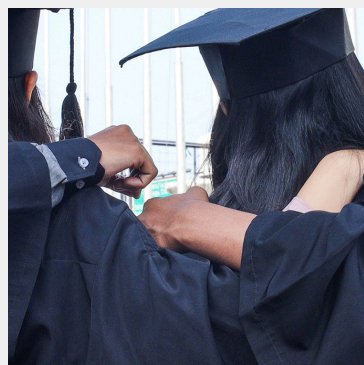


2024 Annual Report



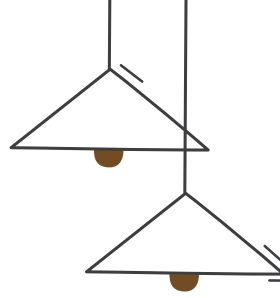
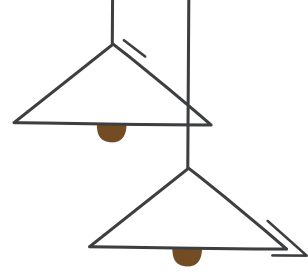


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About LVA



We are a non-profit institution dedicated to teaching English as a second language to adults. As the premier private educational facility in the Danbury area, we provide affordable educational opportunities to a diverse community.

Our programs cover a wide range of needs, from practical skills for everyday life to academic preparation for college-level work. We serve individuals seeking to improve their language skills for various purposes, including citizenship, employment, parenting, and further education.

Board of Directors



Greg Brauneisen
President



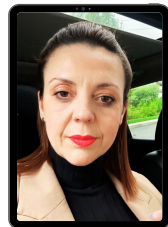
Thomas Pinkham
Executive Director



Lynn Pinkham
Chief Financial Officer



Clayton Rocha Fermino
Vice President

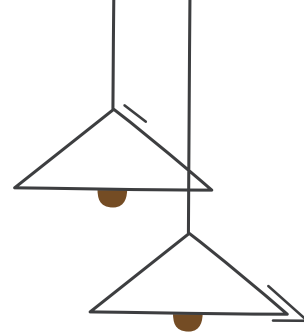


Erika Sanches Fermino
**Director's Assistant &
Office Manager**



Paul Sutherland
Secretary

From the Director



Dear Supporters and Community Members,

I am delighted to present our Annual Report for 2024, a year that has been both challenging and remarkable for LVA SCHOOL. As the Executive Director, I am filled with pride as I reflect on our achievements and our lasting impact together.

This past year, our school has continued to advance our mission to provide English language education to immigrants in our community. Through your generous support and the unwavering dedication of our team, we have met our goals.

I am glad to share that we have achieved a positive net revenue in 2024. It is a testament to our careful financial management and the effectiveness of our programs. However, it has not been an easy path. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted our economic landscape. Donations and grants, which have traditionally supported our programs, were drastically reduced in the wake of the crisis. In order to navigate this difficult period, we made the hard decision to reduce the number of scholarships we could offer our students. Despite these cuts, we remained committed to maintaining the quality of our services. These decisions allowed us to stabilize financially while continuing to deliver on our mission.

Our success this year is not just reflected in numbers; it is seen in the lives we have touched and the opportunities we have created. Many of our students have made tremendous strides in their English proficiency, empowering them to better integrate into society, pursue higher education, and secure better employment opportunities. The impact of our work extends far beyond the classroom, enriching the fabric of our community and fostering a more inclusive environment for all.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we recognize that challenges remain. The need for our services continues to grow, and we are determined to expand our reach and impact in the coming years. To do so, we continue to rely on the ongoing support of our donors and community partners.

Your support has been critical to our success. Whether you have volunteered your time, made a financial contribution, or advocated for our cause, you have played a vital role in helping us make a difference. As we look to the future, we invite you to join us in our mission to empower immigrants through English education. Together, we can build a stronger, more inclusive community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

I encourage you to explore our Annual Report to learn more about our achievements and the stories of those whose lives have been transformed by your support. Thank you for believing in our mission and for being an essential part of our journey. With your continued support, we can create an even brighter future for our students and community.

Warm regards,

Tom Pinkham
Executive Director

Our Vision

LVA's mission is to educate a diverse population of adults to improve their English language skills and provide them with a positive American cultural experience.



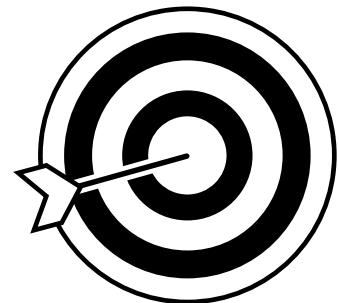
Our Mission

We envision a future where the focus of education is to enable all students to achieve their educational and career dreams.

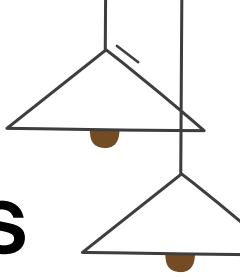


Our Goal

We are committed to integrity, accountability, and excellence in education.

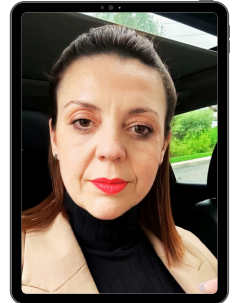


Meet our Staff & Teachers



ERIKA SANCHES FERMINO - DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT

Erika Fermino joined LVA School in 2015 as a student and quickly became a volunteer. With a degree in Business and a Master's in Controlling & Finances, she has served as Office Manager and Director's Assistant since 2018, playing a vital role in the school's operations and growth.



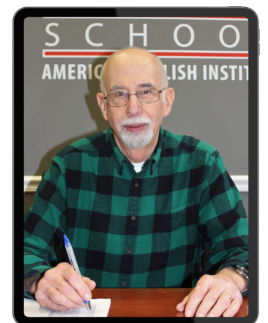
MELINA DE OSAMBELA - OFFICE ASSISTANT

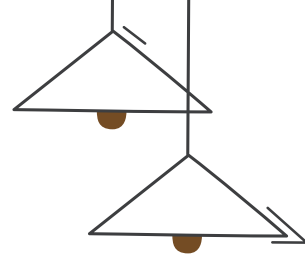
Melina is a Social Worker with vast experience working in non-profit organizations. Melina is currently in the process of obtaining her Master of Social Work from Brescia University. She was also a teacher in Peru for several years until she moved to CT, where she became a Tax Preparer, Notary Public, and Translator. With this background, she decided to start her own business, where she helps the Latino population all over the State of Connecticut.



HARVEY CENTER - HEAD TEACHER

Mr. Harvey has been teaching at LVA School since 2005. Previously he taught in the Danbury School system for 35 years. He gets great joy in seeing the progress our eager students achieve.





BARBARA LANE - TEACHER AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Barbara Lane had a career in human resources that included training for employees and recruitment. She taught English at the college level in China for four years. Barbara has been at LVA since 2014. She is passionate about teaching ESL to students and loves the work she does at LVA.



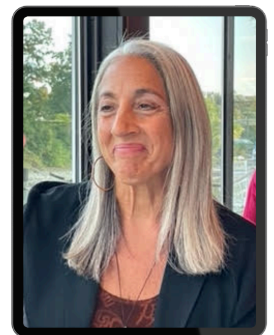
PAUL SUTHERLAND - TEACHER

Paul has been teaching at the LVA School for over 15 years. In his past life, he worked in corporate finance but his true love is languages. Paul worked for 2 years in the Peace Corps in Brazil and speaks Portuguese and some Spanish. In addition to Brazil, he has also lived for a short time in Spain and Mexico, and he loves all the different cultures that he has known. Paul enjoys having the opportunity to share our culture and language with others.



SUPRIYA SWERDLICK HERMENZE - TEACHER

Supriya Hermenze teaches English reading and conversation one and two at LVA. She is an Interfaith minister, massage therapist, birth labor doula at Danbury Hospital. She speaks Spanish and French and loves to travel, bike ride and dance. She lives in Danbury with her husband, dog and cat.



HELGA MAIER - TEACHER

Helga received her TESOL/TEFL certificate from Global Leadership College and has taught English as a foreign language for 25 years. Since she speaks German as her native language, she uniquely understands the newcomer to English. She inherited her love for languages and learning languages from her mother, who would always study the language of a new European country their family was visiting. She has taught at LVA for several years and enjoys teaching adult learners in any aspect of their studies, whether speaking, listening, reading, or writing.



MICHAEL GUERRERO - TEACHER

Michael has a background in economics and anthropology. He brings a well-rounded approach to his work. His passion for education and experience as a former volunteer firefighter drives his commitment to helping students and families in the community. Michael also serves as the Director of the Family Resource Center at Danbury Public Schools, supporting families and ensuring students have the resources they need to succeed. Michael's enthusiasm and dedication make him an invaluable member of the LVA family.



KAREN ROSE - TEACHER

Karen is a master educator with 34 years of experience teaching diverse high school and college student populations. She excels in in-person and online instruction and uses her expertise to support students at LVA School. In 2021, Karen was certified as a crisis counselor for domestic violence and sexual assault. She also volunteers at the Danbury Center for Education and Empowerment. Her dedication to education and community service makes her a vital member of the LVA team.



About Our Students

Students of all ages.

Our students range in age from 19 to 63, reflecting the diverse backgrounds and experiences within our community. The average age of Danbury residents is 38.9, slightly younger than the state average of 41.1.

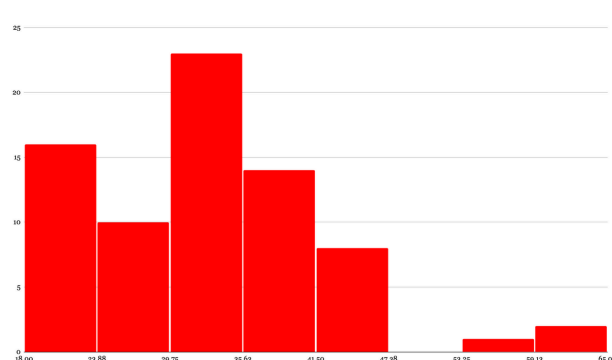
They speak another language at home.

A significant portion of our students speak a language other than English at home. Approximately 42% of Danbury residents speak a language other than English, with Spanish and Portuguese being the most common. This is mirrored in our classrooms, where 55% of students speak Spanish and 41% speak Portuguese.

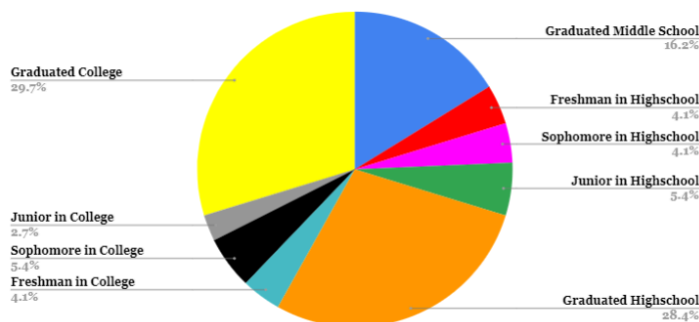
They are better educated.

In Danbury as a whole, about 57.6% of the adult residents have at least a four-year college degree. Compared to the U.S. average of 46.6%. Among our students, 29.7% have a bachelor's degree, 12.2% attended college, 28.4% graduated High School, 13.5% attended Highschool and 16.2% graduated Middle school.

STUDENT'S AGE



LEVEL OF EDUCATION



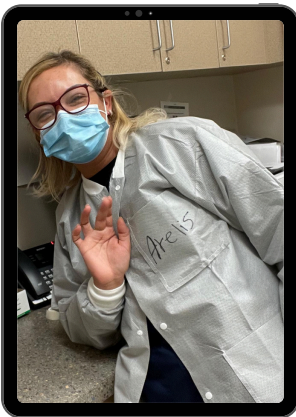
Where are our students now



Estrella Guaman
Graduated RN



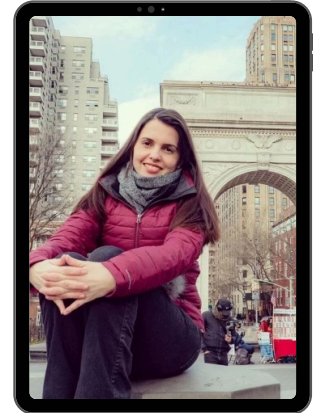
Albertine Rwabukamba
College Graduated Nurse



Arelis Santana
Registered Nurse

"As a former student, I appreciate the outstanding education and support I received during my studies journey. Your dedicated team of teachers and staff members made my learning experience genuinely enriching and memorable." -

Carolina Fermينو,
Customer Manager



Gisele Faria

"Beyond the classroom, I also cherished connecting with students from diverse cultural backgrounds. The multicultural atmosphere of the school not only helped me improve my language abilities but provided me with a global perspective and lasting friendships."

"Studying at LVA school was an incredibly enriching experience. The school's dedicated instructors and comprehensive curriculum not only improved my language skills but also provided a supportive environment for personal growth. I gained confidence in spoken and written English. The multicultural atmosphere further enhanced my learning by exposing me to diverse perspectives and cultures."



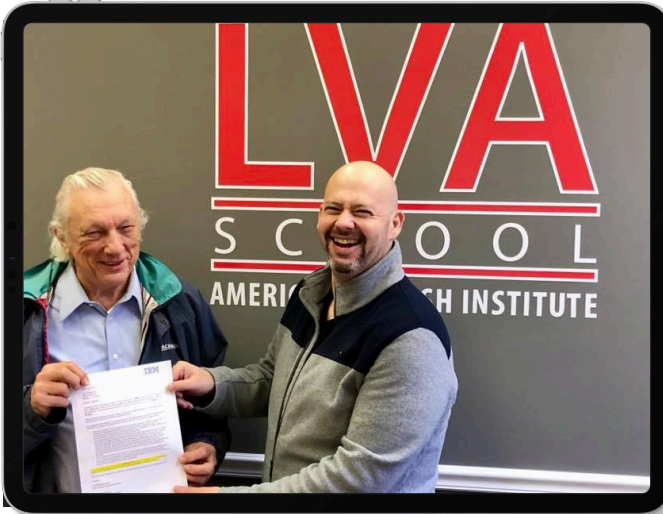
"I am genuinely grateful to the teachers and all the LVA members for their unwavering support, patience, and dedication to my academic success. The lessons I learned at your school extend far beyond language proficiency; they have helped shape me into a more confident and open-minded individual" -

Mirna Caetano, Business Owner



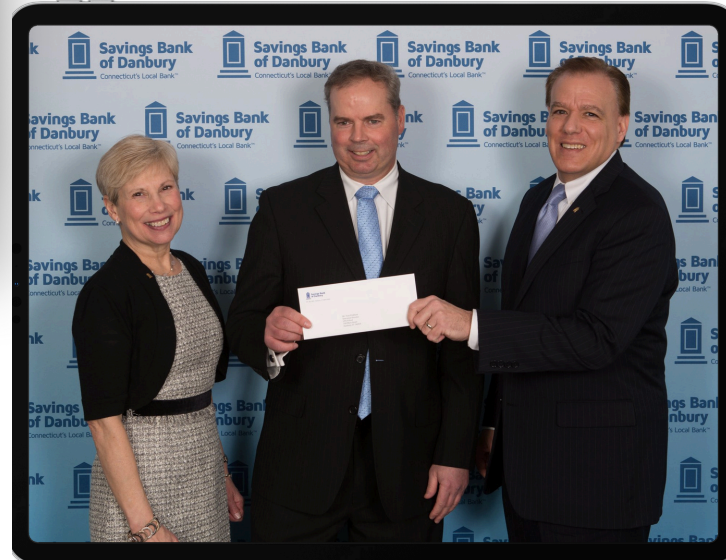
Benefactors 2024

OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION FOR THE SUPPORT
GIVEN BY:



Individuals

Clayton Fermino
Barbara Davis
Erika Snches Fermino
Harvey Center
Tom & Lynn Pinkham



Foundations

Savings Bank of
Danbury
Ceres Foundation



Financial Statements

Most of our students are on a proven path to success.

They work full-time in industries such as restaurants, construction, landscaping, childcare, and housekeeping. Despite their busy schedules, they dedicate four days a week, for sixteen weeks, to attending classes, completing homework, and preparing for their midterm and final exams.

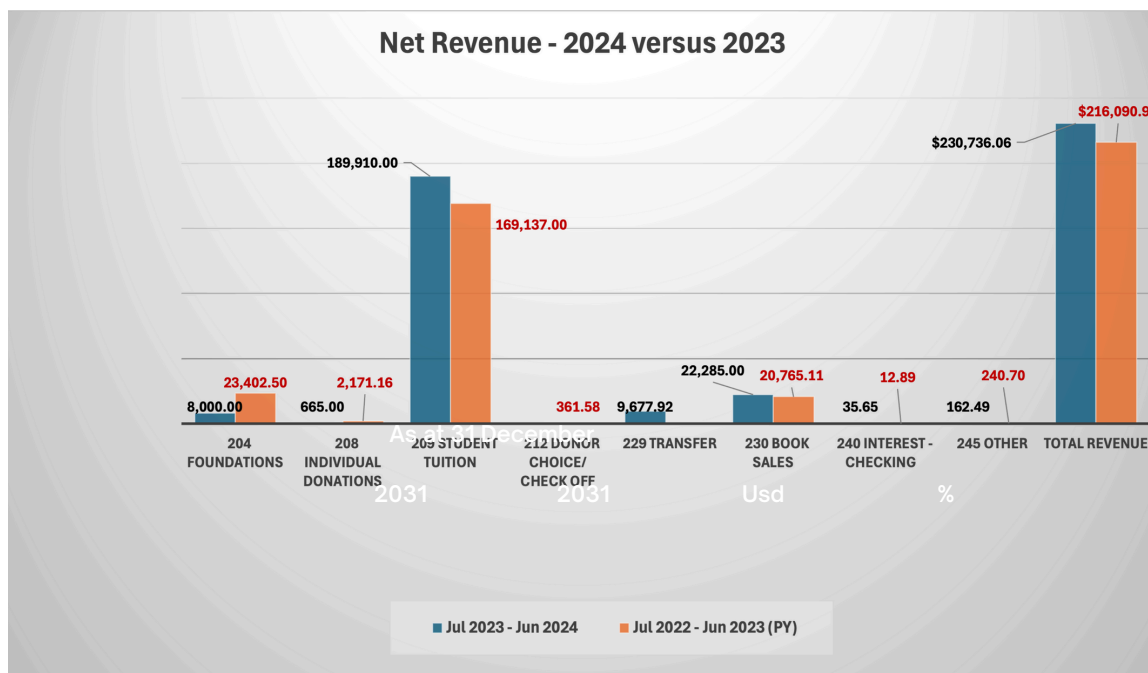
Student tuition remains a fraction of community college costs and is a cornerstone of our financial sustainability. Tuition accounts for over 82% of the funds necessary to operate our school.

The majority of LVA's expenditures are dedicated to covering staff salaries and maintaining our facility. As a non-profit organization, we prioritize investing in our talented team of educators, administrative staff, and support personnel who are essential to delivering quality education and services to our students. Additionally, a significant portion of our budget goes toward the upkeep and operation of our facility, ensuring a safe, welcoming, and fully equipped environment where students can thrive. These ongoing costs are vital to sustaining our mission of providing accessible and impactful educational opportunities for adults in our community.

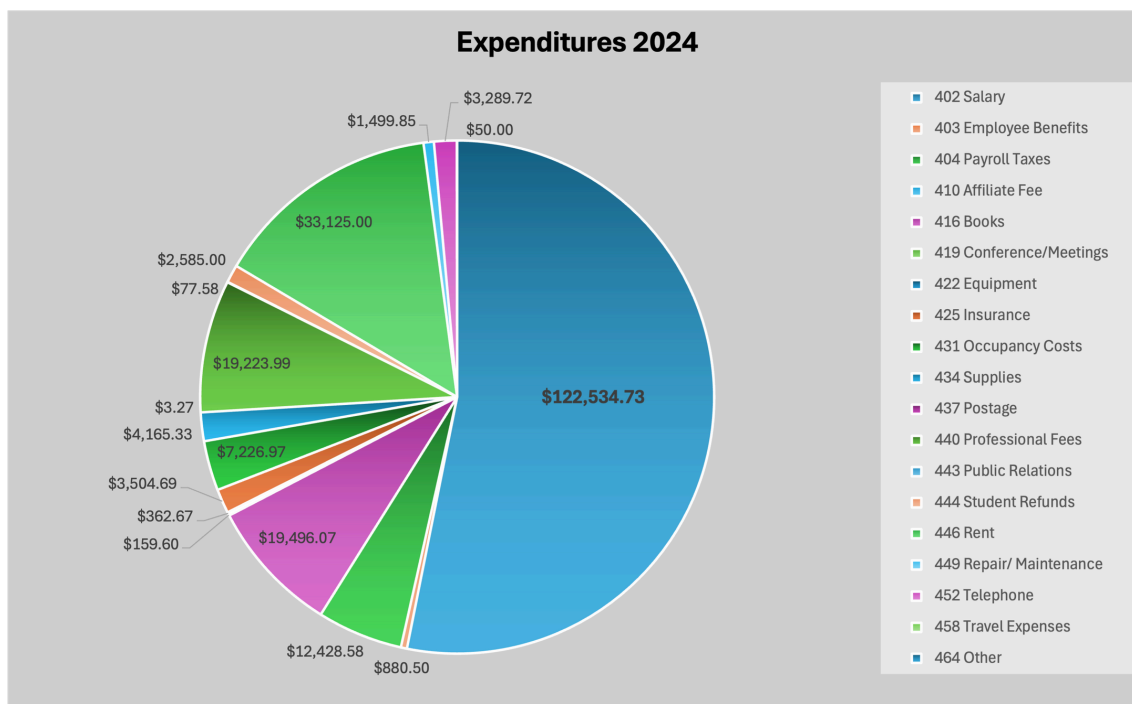
LVA's funds comes from Student tuition

82%

2024 NET REVENUE



2024 EXPENDITURES



Going forward ...

As we close another fiscal year, we reflect on the journey we've faced as an organization, and we remain deeply grateful for the unwavering support we've received from our community, donors, and partners. Despite the challenges, we are encouraged by the positive result we have achieved this year—a testament to the resilience of our team and the ongoing commitment of our supporters.

However, it's essential to acknowledge that we are still in the process of recovering from the long-lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The economic disruptions caused by the global health crisis have had a profound effect on our operations. Donations, which have always been the cornerstone of our financial support, have been significantly reduced since 2020. While we have worked tirelessly to adapt, inflation and rising costs continue to strain our resources, further impacting our ability to meet growing demands.

We are optimistic about the future as we continue to adapt and innovate in the face of these ongoing challenges. We are also confident that with the continued generosity of our community and the strategic adjustments we are making, we will emerge stronger in the years to come.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to each of you—our donors, volunteers, staff, and partners—who have made it possible for us to continue our work and sustain our mission. Together, we will navigate these uncertain times and continue to build a brighter, more sustainable future for those we serve.

Thank you for your steadfast support. We look forward to working alongside you as we enter the next chapter of our journey.

Lynn Pinkham
Chief Financial Officer





Contact us



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248 Main St, Danbury, CT 06810



www.lvaschool.org

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