

Moving **FORWARD** Together



Literacy Online

For Anna, who has been a student at LVGH since 2011, the closing of our office due to the COVID-19 pandemic took some getting used to. **"It wasn't easy being at home all day and not being in class"**, Anna said of that first month before she started online learning. "I was just reading books a lot. So now I am ahead of everyone in book club."

On any given day, whether it was attending a class or working in the computer lab, you were more likely to find Anna in the office than not. So now, she is taking advantage of just about every online class she can fit into her newly open schedule. **"I'm taking two literacy classes and two book clubs"**, she told me, before clarifying: "Well, three literacy classes. The one I took last night is new for me."

Anna moved up to Connecticut from Maryland nine years ago, following an even bigger move from The Gambia a few years prior. She enrolled at LVGH with a goal to improve her reading and writing, and says as long as she keeps improving, she'll keep coming in.

"I miss you guys", she told us on Zoom when asked about how she's handling being away from the office. "I call it more like a family to me because everyone is welcoming to everyone. You love your family, but at the same time, people you're around so much can become your family members. You count them as your own family. That's what I miss about LVGH".

We couldn't agree more! But while safely staying virtual, Anna's favorite part about online learning? "Everyone is on time!"

- Despite losing six weeks of class time, we served **a total of 736 students for the year.**
- Shortly after we shut down, we made a successful switch to online learning that started with 8 students in March 2020 and grew to **142 students online by June.**
- While the office was shut down, we offered 30 online classes with a total of **2,128 online learning hours.**
- **9 students gained their U.S. citizenship** this year, up from 2 last year.





2019 - 2020 LVGH CAREER PATHWAYS Highlights

- **23** students gained employment and **20** obtained job advancements
- **8** students gained food service jobs after completing our Sodexo Job Training Program
- **First aid training:** University of Saint Joseph nursing students joined us to offer blood pressure screenings and simple health lessons to students, as well as facilitated first aid training with our childcare staff and students.

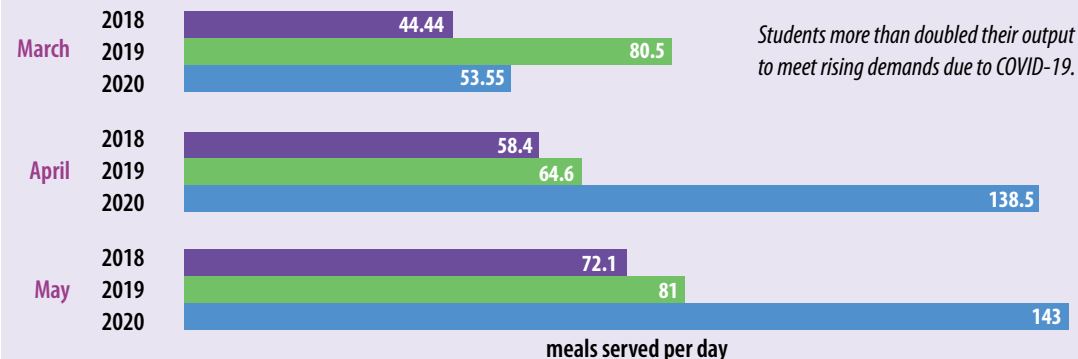


Sodexo Food Service Job Training Program

As part of our Sodexo Food Service Job Training Program, students prepare a free meal for the community twice a week. When our literacy centers closed due to the initial COVID-19 outbreak, the students selflessly decided that now more than ever, it was important to keep this program going for people who depended on it. Demand for the free community dinners prepared by our food services job training students- which are now being served to-go style- has multiplied due to growing financial insecurity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We're so thankful for everyone who came together and made this possible.



COMMUNITY MEALS SERVED BY SODEXO STUDENTS



OUR STUDENTS



"Without coming to LVGH, the things I want to accomplish in life would be impossible. The path to accomplishing my goals starts here."

- OUSMANE



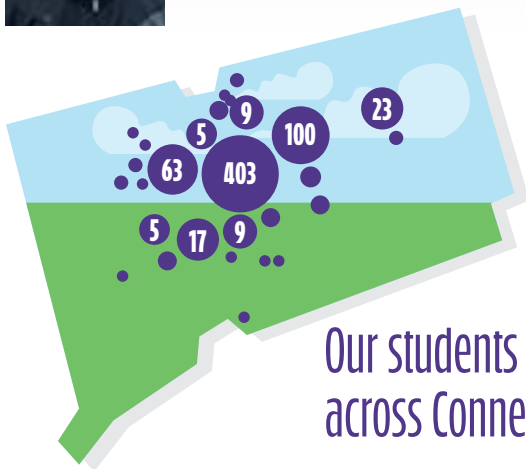
"When I started, my first impressions were of the kind employees. I very much admired the excellent work of the volunteers and the whole staff."

- SUSANNE



"I wanted a place where I could continue to better myself and my skills. I needed somewhere to go and someone to keep me accountable."

- ZACK



Our students are from all across Connecticut

OUR TUTORS



"As you walk through the halls, you see a powerful community of learners working together and laughing together. Every classroom is filled with students with a beautiful story to tell."

- JOCELYN, SPELLING TUTOR



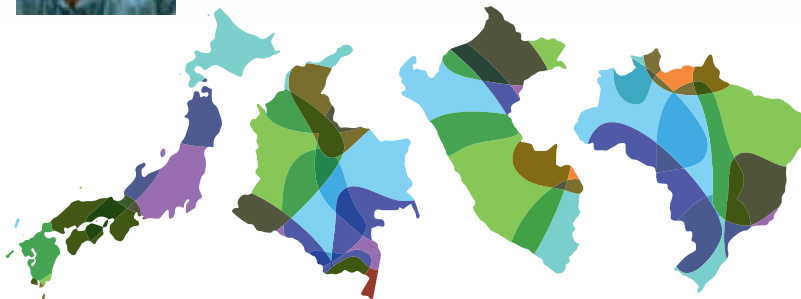
"I may walk into that beautiful historic building every week under the role of teacher, but I learn so much from students and staff. I am so inspired and so much richer in mind and heart when I walk out."

- MARCIA, ESOL TUTOR



"Seeing the students' desire to learn and their improvements with each passing week is the most rewarding aspect of being a part of such a great community."

- RYAN, BASIC LITERACY TUTOR

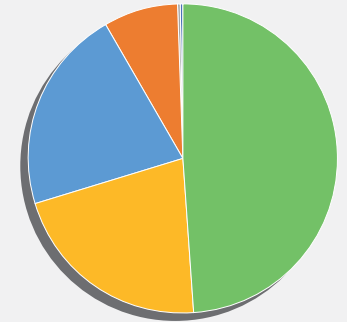


Former LVGH students who are now back in their native countries have been able to join online classes from **Colombia, Japan, Peru, and Brazil**

FY 2019 - 2020 INCOME SOURCES

(unaudited)

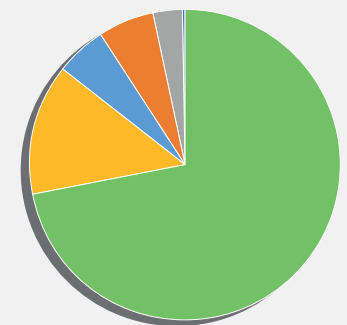
Revenue:



- Private Grants: \$329,518
- Government Grants: \$144,112
- Fundraising: \$143,746
- United Way: \$53,541
- Endowment: \$2,217
- Interest: \$366

TOTAL: \$673,500

Expenses:



- Salaries/Benefits: \$533,797
- Occupancy: \$102,217
- Administration: \$37,642
- Contractual Services: \$44,804
- Program Expenses: \$22,162
- Fundraising: \$1,015

TOTAL: \$741,637

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