

# LDA of Minnesota 2004 Annual Report



***I was lucky to come to LDA. I wanted to learn about myself and about reading and writing. When I came to LDA, I was afraid to dream of learning and to change my life, but I have and I'm happy.***

## Dear Friends of LDA,

Reflecting on 2004, three themes emerge; growth, planning, and collaboration. LDA's services to the community grew, LDA concluded strategic planning, and the organization began collaborating with more schools and agencies around the state.

- LDA's board of directors and staff concluded strategic planning in November 2004. The 2005-2007 Strategic Plan includes four strategy areas: program growth, client service and profile, visibility, and funding.
- LDA's community-based Learning Connections Program expanded services from seven to fourteen schools in Minneapolis. The expansion increased direct reading instruction by 59% to students in low-income communities, meaning that 548 students have become significantly better readers. In addition to intensive reading instruction, participating schools also received teacher training, and/or school-wide capacity building services.
- LDA's longtime partnership with the Minnesota Department of Education, Adult Basic Education (ABE) division continued in 2004 with the development of The Adult Reading Toolkit (The ART). LDA delivered The ART and reading instruction training to more than one-third of the ABE literacy instructors statewide. The product has been recognized by the National Center for the Study of Adult Literacy and Learning (NCSALL) as a promising tool for literacy instructors using best-practice reading research.
- LDA became affiliated with the Metropolitan Alliance of Community Centers (MACC), a partnership of community-based social service organizations whose mission is to assist individuals and families in achieving greater self-sufficiency by strengthening the capacity of community-based social service organizations.

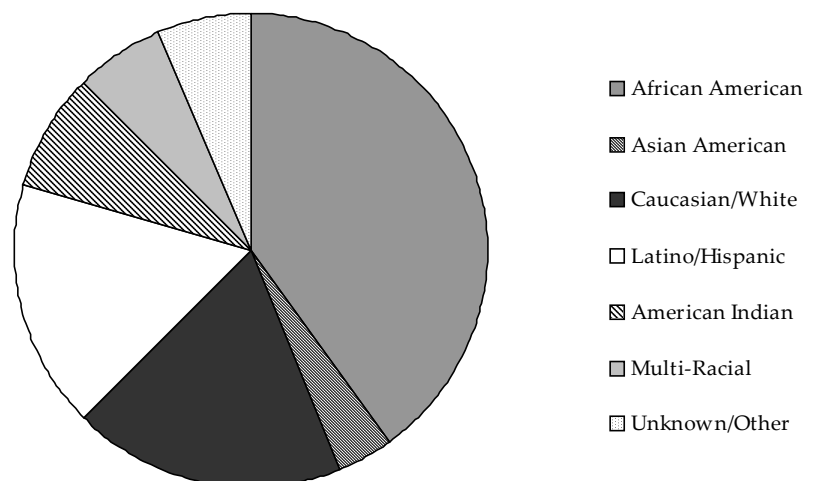
Our community expects that today's students, whatever age they may be, become tomorrow's productive, contributing citizens. LDA of Minnesota is committed to helping children, youth, adults and families reach this goal. We look forward to continued growth, implementation on our plans, and strong collaborations to finish the important work of LDA of Minnesota. Our board and staff appreciate the support from our many stakeholders to make this vision a reality.

*Kitty Christiansen*

Executive Director

## Client Demographics

LDA directly served 2,458 individuals in 2004. An additional 92,564 individuals received information and resources about LDA's services and learning disabilities. LDA's geographic area of service includes Twin Cities metropolitan area for children, youth and family services. LDA's adult services and public education efforts are provided to individuals statewide. Seventy-one percent of the individuals served at LDA in 2004 were low-income, 90% being children and 10% adults.





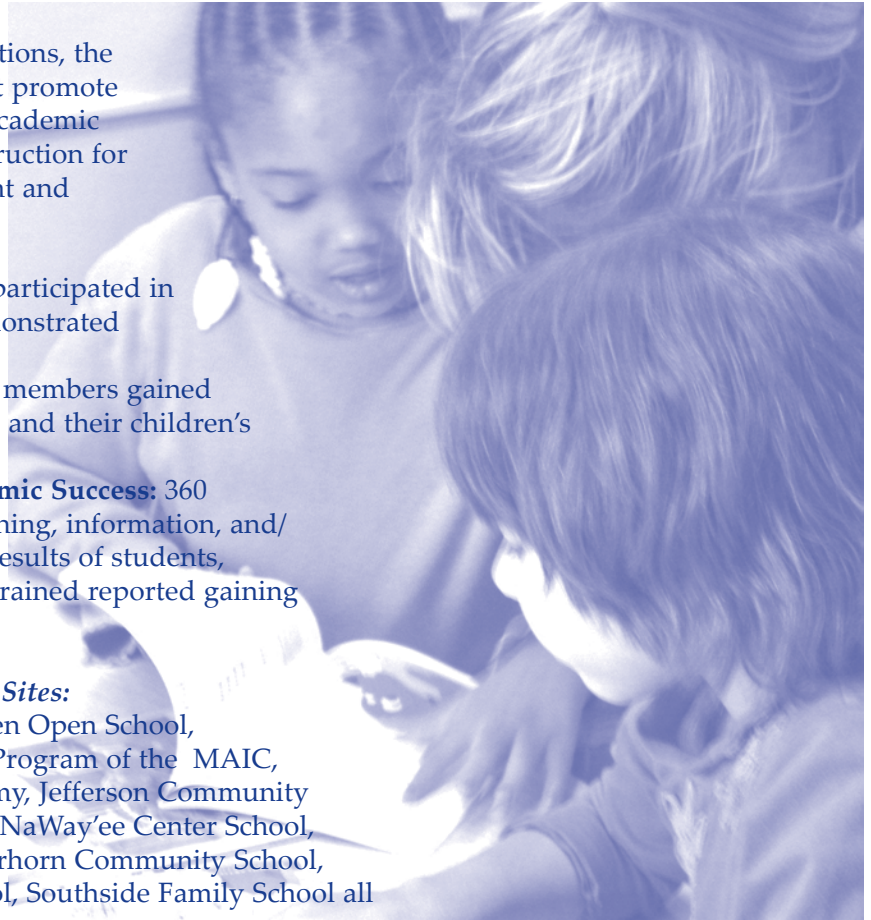
# Learning Connections Program

In partnership with schools and community organizations, the Learning Connections Program provides services that promote literacy and learning success for children at-risk for academic failure. The program provides intensive reading instruction for children of elementary-school age, parent involvement and education, and organizational capacity building.

- ❑ **Intensive Reading Instruction:** 548 children participated in service. 89% of children who post-tested demonstrated academic skill gains.
- ❑ **Parent Involvement & Education:** 711 family members gained knowledge or tools to improve family literacy and their children's learning.
- ❑ **Organizational Capacity Building for Academic Success:** 360 teachers, parents and volunteers received training, information, and/or individual coaching to improve academic results of students, impacting 1,957 students with 100% of those trained reported gaining knowledge.

## *Program Partners and Community-based Sites:*

Andersen Elementary School, Andersen Open School, Anishinabe Academy, Golden Eagles Program of the MAIC, Hall Elementary School, Hope Academy, Jefferson Community School, Learning Center for Children, NaWay'ee Center School, North Star Elementary School, Powderhorn Community School, Risen Christ School, San Miguel School, Southside Family School all located in Minneapolis.



# Transition Connections Program

In partnership with schools and businesses, the Transition Connections Program supports students with learning disabilities in grades 9-12 to gain self-awareness and self-advocacy skills in coping with their disabilities. In 2004, 230 students gained career awareness and work-readiness skills to prepare them for their transition to adulthood and self-sufficiency.

- ❑ **Student Transition Planning:** 143 high school students
  - 91% demonstrated progress toward implementing an individualized transition plan
- ❑ **Community Resource Access:** 45 youths
  - 96% demonstrated increased knowledge of post-high school training, employment and/or educational options
- ❑ **Organizational Capacity Building for Transition Success:** Teacher Training, Consultation and Resources were provided to 24 teachers. 30 parents received information and resources through workshops.

## *Collaborating Partners:*

Minneapolis Public High Schools: Edison, Henry, North, Roosevelt, South, Southwest, Washburn, and Transition Plus; Edina Public Schools; CTICs; and LDA Volunteer Employer Advisory Committee; YouthLink's My Academy



# Adult Connections Program

Adult Connections improves the quality of teaching, employability, and learning for adults with learning disabilities and learning difficulties through teacher training and product dissemination.

- ❑ **Organizational Capacity Building for Adult Success**
  - **Adult Basic Education Teacher Training and Consultation:** 465 individuals received training and information about adult issues through workshops and individualized consultation. Of the respondents, 94% reported gains in knowledge, impacting 4,303 adult learners throughout Minnesota.
  - **Adult Resources: Taking Action and Adult Literacy Tool Kit products:** 590 products were disseminated to adult teachers throughout Minnesota.

## *Collaborating Partners:*

Minnesota Department of Education, Adult Basic Education (ABE) and approximately 55 statewide ABE consortiums and their programs. Statewide Supplemental Service Providers: Literacy Training Network, Minnesota Literacy Council, and LDA Volunteer LD Adult Advisory Committee

## Individualized Educational Services

Educational services are specialized, personalized and designed to meet the specific educational goals of children, youth and adults with learning challenges. 205 individuals received service in 2004.

- ❑ **Assessment and Consultation services:** 100% of 127 gained knowledge (83 adults, 42 children, 2 parent consultations) Services include: LD Diagnostic Assessments, LD-ESL pilot assessments, Assessments for GED testing accommodations, and 1:1 Consultations.
- ❑ **Adult 1:1 tutoring:** 13 adults received service. 100% of those who post-tested demonstrated success (Outcomes include gains in academic skills).
- ❑ **Children's 1:1 and group tutoring, & summer camp:** 67 children received service. 98% of those post-tested demonstrated academic skill gains.



## Public Education & Community Outreach

LDA staff and volunteers offer public education, information, resources, and referrals concerning learning disabilities and related learning issues.

**Community Presentations:** 341 individuals **Information & referral calls:** 448 **Free Phone Consultations:** 32  
**Outreach:** 1,252 individuals **Communications:** 44,895 **Web site Visitors:** 39,336

# Gifts to LDA

## 2004 Corporate & Foundation Donors, Government Grants, Contracts for Service

### Foundation Builders (\$30,000 +)

The Cargill Foundation  
Deluxe Corporation Foundation  
Greater Twin Cities United Way  
Minneapolis Public Schools  
Minnesota Department of Education, Adult  
Basic Education  
E.M. Pearson Foundation  
Risen Christ School

### Leaders (\$10,000 - \$29,000)

American Express Minnesota Philanthropic  
Program  
The Andersen Foundation  
The Bayport Foundation of Andersen  
Corporation  
Albert W. Cherne Foundation  
YouthLink

### Partners (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

The Hugh J. Andersen Foundation  
Edina Public Schools  
NAWAYEE Center School  
Southside Family School  
Margaret Rivers Fund  
Southside Family School  
James R. Thorpe Foundation  
Xcel Energy Foundation

### Guardians (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Burdick-Craddick Family Foundation  
Kopp Family Foundation  
Learning Center for Children  
Metris Companies  
Minnesota Mutual Foundation  
Rosemount, Inc.  
San Miguel School  
Star Tribune Foundation  
The Tennant Company Foundation  
Tozer Foundation  
John P. & Eleanor R. Yackel Foundation

### Sponsors (\$250 - \$999)

Bromelkamp Foundation  
Malt O'Meal Company  
MINCO Products  
Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign  
The Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation  
PGN Foundation

### Friends (\$5- \$249)

American Express Foundation - Employee  
Matching Program  
Alliant Techsystems Citizenship Fund  
HealthPartners  
Lafayette Township United Fund, Inc.  
Michael Foods  
United Way of Delaware

## 2004 Individual Gifts

### Guardians (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Gail Fuad  
Thomas Ritchie

### Sponsors (\$250 - \$999)

Carol Brumwell  
Ari Fuad  
Janet Eian  
Kitty Christiansen  
Lindsay McCabe  
Gary McKinley  
Charles Moore  
Lisa Steffes

### Friends (\$5- \$249)

Anonymous  
Pamela Bednar  
Dorothy Cleveland  
Dave Dehne  
Thomas Denk  
Evie Losinski  
John Forsythe  
David Fortney  
Pamela Freske  
Sonya Fuad  
Karen Hansen  
Susan Jacobs  
Michael & Cecelia Kava Dolan  
David Kientiz  
Lawrence Kremers  
Pam Lux  
David & Janet Marshall  
Michael McNally  
Martha Moriarty  
Kay Owen  
Sydney & William Phillips  
Jeffrey Pukal  
Kathleen Reiter  
Eric Remjeske  
James Rustad  
Gill Stevenson  
Barbara Zweber

LDA of Minnesota is affiliated  
with the following organizations:





**In honor of the Bright Future Tour**, a 12,000-mile bicycle tour around the perimeter of the USA to raise awareness and funds for learning disabilities. Paul Sanchez, the cyclist, made a stop in Minneapolis on September 15, 2004.

Michael Anderson  
Lori Boynton  
Kitty Christiansen  
Margaret Frank  
Loren Meinke  
Rhoda Radde

#### **2004 Inkind Gifts**

First Book of Greater Minneapolis/St. Paul  
Hi-Lake True Value Hardware Store  
International Dairy Queen, Inc.  
Matt's Bar  
The Minnesota Twins  
Dan Moriarty Design Services  
The Movies on 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sally Novotny  
Bob Radde  
Riverview Theater  
Rainbow Foods Uptown  
Kao Vang

#### **LDA Employment Advisory Committee**

David Dubovich, Allina Health System, Disability Case Manager  
Mike Huggins, Hennepin County Corrections, Rehabilitation Program Specialist II  
Irene Kelly, Habitat For Technology  
Liz Morque, Resource, Inc., Mgr/Employment Services  
Ann Rustad, Northwest Airlines, Basic Behavior Safety Specialist  
Lisa Todd, Northwest Airlines, Senior Accommodations Specialist

#### **LDA Adult Advisory Committee**

Sidonia Balke, Waseca ESL  
Lyle Heikes, HUBBS Center ESL  
Charles LaRue, Metro North-Blaine ESL  
Susan Mattson, Corrections GED  
Liv Musel-Staloch, Mankato Area ESL  
Bill Peterson, Lehmann Center ESL  
Heather Turngren, Lehmann Center ESL

#### **Greater MN Psychologist Network**

Kimberly Bednarek, Sauk Rapids  
Susan Chwalek, Monticello  
Kevin Haggerty, Mankato  
Lynn James Halmrast, Moorhead  
Colleen Nardone, Grand Rapids  
Lisa Skifton, Houston  
Dawn Roppe, Bemidji

#### **2004 Board Officers**

Charles Moore, President; Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Trial Associate  
Jan Eian, Past-President; Endurant business Solutions, CFO  
Lisa Steffes, President-Elect; American Express Financial Advisors, Vice President  
Eric Remjeske, Treasurer; Devenir, Financial Investor  
Carol Brumwell, Secretary; Express Scripts

#### **Board Members**

Pamela Bednar; PBS, Marketing Executive  
Dave Dehne; Synchrono, CEO  
Karen Hansen; Medtronic Corporation, HR Director\*  
Miriam Kragness; North Psychology Clinic, Psychologist  
Gary McKinley; Retired CPA\*  
Donna Minter; Minnesota Epilepsy Group, Neuropsychologist\*  
*\*retired in 2004*

#### **2004 LDA Staff**

##### **Leadership Team**

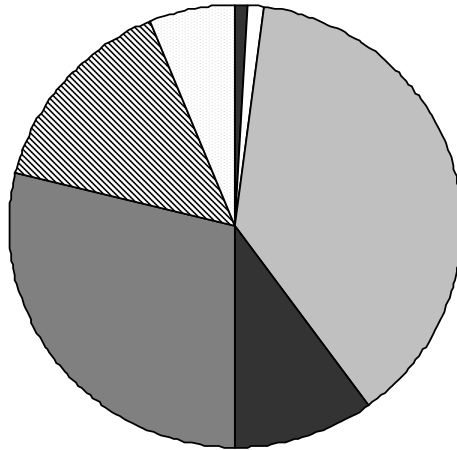
Kitty Christiansen, Executive Director  
Lori Boynton, Program Director  
Martha Moriarty, Resource Development Director  
Rhoda Radde, Business Manager  
Victoria Weinberg, Ph.D., Program Director

##### **Program Staff**

Michael Anderson, Assessment Specialist  
Paul Cicmil, Administrative Assistant  
Christine Clay, Teacher  
Margaret (Marn) Frank, LD Adult Specialist  
Susan Hallam, Learning Connections Teacher  
Rico Her, Transition Coordinator  
Lindsey Johnson, VISTA Volunteer  
Diane Lavin, Learning Connections Teacher  
Kim MacKenzie, Reading Specialist & Learning Connections Coordinator  
Colin Marsh, Teacher  
Sharalee Marsh, Teacher  
Loren Meinke, Learning Connections Teacher  
Kristy Nelson, Learning Connections Teacher  
Wendy Noakes, Learning Connections Teacher  
Emily Nordhus, Marketing/Client Services  
Michelle Pollis, Teacher  
Diane Schommer, Teacher  
David Schreiber, Teacher  
Maia Sheie, Teacher  
Sarah Shockley, Learning Connections Teacher  
Todd Sigler, Psychologist  
Barb Simonson, Accountant  
Cindy Skjei-Meyer, Teacher  
Rebecca Wilson, Receptionist  
Mariah Wold, Learning Connections Teacher

# 2004 Financials

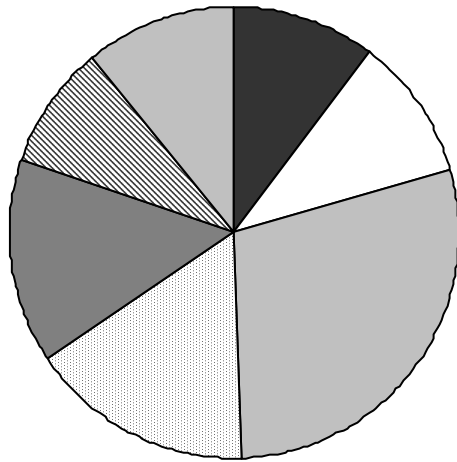
## Revenues



Total Agency Revenue: \$1,212,690

- Interest Income
- General Public Support
- Corporation & Foundation Contributions
- Contracts for Service
- Government Grants
- ▨ Greater Twin Cities United Way
- Program & Product Income

## Expenses



Total Agency Expenses: 1,035,380

- Adult Connections
- Youth Transition Connections
- Learning Connections
- ▨ Assessment Services
- Tutoring Services
- ▨ Fundraising
- Administration

**LDA of Minnesota**  
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The mission of Learning Disabilities Association of Minnesota is **to maximize the potential of children, youth and adults with learning disabilities (LD) and or related learning difficulties so that they and their families lead more productive and fulfilled lives.**

