The Chicago Literacy Alliance (CLA) is a 501(c)(3) association whose 80+ member organizations are dedicated to meeting literacy needs for people of all ages and backgrounds. Working together, we envision a future in which 100% of Chicagoland residents are functionally literate, and in which that shared literacy is a defining characteristic and point of pride for the city.

In 2015, the CLA opened the Literacenter, the country’s only nonprofit shared workspace devoted exclusively to literacy. In addition to 41,000 sq ft of colorful, creative, and affordable space, the Literacenter provides weekly programs on related topics (working with foundations, theory of change, social media best practices, volunteer management, etc.), expert office hours with nonprofit and literacy professionals, opportunities for members to present their programs to each other, open meetings for the entire community, social gatherings, and more. Literacenter is a proud recipient of Chicago Inno’s 50 On Fire award for 2015.

To build on the success of the Literacenter and accelerate the pace of change, we are now seeking professionals from the finance, real estate, insurance, banking, education, marketing, advocacy and government sectors to provide expertise and development abilities as new members of our Board of Directors.

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<th>In Chicago...</th>
<th>Each year...</th>
<th>Our Board members...</th>
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| 49% of 4th graders are below basic levels of reading proficiency. | CLA’s 80+ member organizations serve 3.6 million people of all ages, from early childhood through adults, with tens of thousands of hours of literacy programming and hundreds of thousands of books given away. | Assist in active governance of CLA and the Literacenter
| 18% of the population has not completed high school or the GED. | | Contribute their expertise, sector knowledge, and fundraising abilities to our team and cause
| 30% of adults (882,000 people) have low basic literacy skills. | | Connect us to their networks to magnify impact

Our Board members...