An International Literacy Day graffiti board made by students from Harris Road Middle School.

Children from our community based reading program in Manizales, Columbia.
Our Team

Board of Directors
Dr Don Green
Mr François Gerin-Lajoie
Dr Julie Ruel
Ms Cathy Green
Andrew Kay

Management Team
Chief Executive Officer: Andrew Kay

Project Managers
Jade Lane: International Literacy Day
Travis Thompson: Solar Panel Tablet + STEM Projects Seattle office
Alec Green: Project Management Grand Rapids office

Ambassadors
Dame Helen Mirren
Zoe Wanamaker
Adele Parks

“Reading and learning are vital for the development of young people. I am proud to be an ambassador for the World Literacy Foundation.”

-DAME HELEN MIRREN

Across the globe, 757 million people cannot read this sentence. Do you want to change that? Read on.
Students from Guy Weadick School celebrate International Literacy Day with a second-hand book sale.

Young girl from our community based reading program in Manizales, Columbia.

READING IS POWER.
Our vision is a world where everyone can read and write, in which there is free access to education for all. We provide innovative resources that support life-long learning. We raise awareness and advocate on the importance of literacy and education. We’re creating a world where everyone can read. We are changing lives. The North American World Literacy Foundation is an independent non-profit organization, and also is a collaborative partner and affiliate of WLF in the United Kingdom & Europe, Australia, Latin America & Africa.
We are About

CLOSING the literacy gap by 2030

EQUIPPING communities with educational technology

EMPOWERING individuals to change their lives

The World Literacy Foundation is working in partnership with 120 groups and 3920 internationally across 25 countries with one common goal: to eradicate illiteracy in our lifetime.

North America World Literacy Foundation was established in 2013 to increase literacy and address literacy concerns in North America. We partner with K-12 schools, pre-schools, colleges and Universities to raise awareness of literacy, and help provide programs and books to children and young people in poverty areas.

We plan to see every child reach their full potential through the power of learning and literacy.

By doing so, we aim to reduce poverty, improve health, increase employment and educational prospects, and see lives changed forever.

We act as a voice and unite people to bring about real, long-lasting change.

Please join us.
2015-16 Snapshot

USA

Total number of people reached: 6300
Number of partnerships/collaborations: 120
Number of books distributed: 5000
Numbers of people impacted by technology projects: 12
Number of volunteer hours provided: 1200

Global

Total number of people reached: 1,500,000
Number of partnerships/collaborations: 320
Number of books distributed: 650,000
Numbers of people impacted by technology projects: 6500
Number of volunteer hours provided: 28,000
Solar Panel Tablet Devices

Millions of classrooms located ‘off the grid’ have no books or basic educational resources. We have designed and developed a solar panel tablet device to support classrooms where there is no Internet or electricity. Our tablet device is a toolkit of hundreds of resources, such as textbooks, audio and video books, and interactive learning content. These educational tools are placed directly into the hands of students and teachers, where often a textbook is shared with a whole class. The pre-loaded content on our low-cost device offers an e-library of bi-lingual local and international books for the classrooms.

In the United States, our Project Manager, Travis Thompson is based in Seattle, working with technologies and education companies in the development of this project. We also launched a new initiative to engage with US schools to provide opportunities for students interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and coding to assist with digitalising educational content onto the tablet device for use in classrooms in the developing world.
In 2015-16 we began field-testing of the tablet device in Gulu, Uganda. Our field test began in eleven schools and 100 classrooms. To facilitate this, we employed a local project officer to provide training and support in the use of the tablet plus conduct monitoring and evaluation. We also established relationships within Uganda with the Ministry of Education and community-based educational provider Fun of Phonics. We appreciate the donated digital content from local and international educational publishing companies.

“Our solar panel innovation seeks to bridge the digital divide. By putting learning material in the hands of teachers, we can change the lives of children in the developing world”.
– Andrew Kay, CEO World Literacy Foundation

“These tablets are going to have local materials, audio and learning guides. They will change the way our students learn

– Nighty Akello Moro
Uganda Field Coordinator.
Distribution of Children’s books in the United States

In 2015-16 we partnered with five local schools and communities in 24 regions to provide donated books series into the hands of children from low-income areas. We provided 5000 books aimed to encourage reading and literacy skills in children aged 3-8. We empowered 120 people to collect and distribute in their local communities to children who don’t own a single book.

North America World Literacy Foundation is taking steps to close the reading achievement gap between children in poverty and middle-class children. One in six children who do not read at age level by the end of third grade will not graduate from high school and, statistics show that in low-income neighborhoods, there is only one book per 300 children. That’s why North America World Literacy Foundation is working to change the future for these children.

“Our working with local communities is an honor. We were proud to see so many individuals get involved in our programs and loved seeing the happy faces of children when they received their books.”
– Alec Green, USA

International Literacy Day 2015

On September 8, 2015, we facilitated a campaign with schools across the globe for International Literacy Day. The aim was to create greater awareness, education and understanding with students on the importance of literacy in their lives. Each school conducted an event or activity to celebrate the day.

In the United States, 185 schools and 128,000 students participated in International Literacy Day activities. Each school conducted an activity or event to raise awareness and understanding about literacy.

Across the globe 3,551 schools, 543 community groups and 3.2 million individuals participated in various literacy-related activities on International Literacy Day.
World Literacy Foundation Youth Ambassadors

In 2015-16, we launched a new initiative to enlist young people to act as a World Literacy Foundation ambassador in their local community. The role provides an opportunity for young people to be a voice and advocate for literacy in their school and local community.

In the United States, we enlisted 63 ambassadors who organized local initiatives to promote the importance of literacy.

Across the globe, we have 120 Youth Ambassadors in 20 countries.

Community Based Literacy Initiatives

Partnerships and collaborations with local community based literacy organisations is a vital aspect of our work.

Globally, in 2015-16 we had 1,320 established groups across 25 countries who ran community based literacy initiatives. An example includes the “Learn, Read & Play project, which is as an after school program in Manizales, Colombia. The program provides a reading support and tutoring for 40 children in a very poor district, which there are high rates of illiteracy. Local Coordinator, Paula Correa, says: “I love to see the children develop a love and habit for reading. Sadly, many of the children in this area have no access to books, so this year we established a local community library in the basement of the local church”.

Research and Advocacy

In September 2015 we released a global index report of the economic cost and social impact on illiteracy. The report highlighted the national and global impact of illiteracy in economic and social terms, and it attracted more than 1 million readers. In 2015-16, we had representation at 104 activities including conferences, workshops, public speaking events, media interviews and school visits. We were also honored to make a presentation about our work to the former Minister for Education, the Honourable Christopher Pyne.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The World Literacy Foundation commits to evaluating and measuring the impact of our literacy programs. We use monitoring and evaluation frameworks to capture quantitative and qualitative data on each of our programs using multiple different tools; volunteer reporting, evaluation forms, surveys, focus groups and feedback from key stakeholders. In the years to come, we will focus heavily on measuring the impact of our solar panel tablet devices in developing countries across the globe.

Illiteracy will cost global economy $1.2tn in 2015

Report by the World Literacy Foundation says almost 800m people worldwide who can’t read or write are ‘trapped in a cycle of poverty’

Illiteracy is “a worldwide crisis” that will cost the global economy $1.2tn (£760bn) this year, the World Literacy Foundation (WLF) has warned. More than 796 million people are either completely illiterate, meaning they can’t read or write, or functionally illiterate, meaning they can’t perform basic tasks such as reading a medicine label, the WLF said in a report released on Monday (pdf).

People in rich and poor countries are “trapped in a cycle of poverty with limited opportunities for employment or income generation” because of illiteracy, the report said.

It used a formula developed by the UN’s Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (pdf) that takes into account the size and structures of different countries’ economies. The formula estimates the cost of illiteracy to developing countries at 0.5% of their gross domestic product. In emerging economies, such as China and India, the cost stands at 1.2% of GDP, while in developed countries the cost is estimated at about 2% of GDP.

These estimates reflect a lower level of spending on social services such as welfare, health and the justice system in less developed countries, the report said.

This means that countries with the largest GDP are estimated to bear the highest cost of illiteracy. Rich countries lose some $898bn every year due to workforce illiteracy, which can reduce business productivity, while emerging economies lose $294bn, according to the report.
Research Project

Teenagers are growing up in an environment with increased study and sporting pressures, more time spent on digital devices and video games and less time reading books. We understand a regular reading routine for a young person is fundamental for future educational success. As such, in 2015-16 Dan Gannon conducted an eight-month research project into behavioral and attitudes to reading and learning in the adolescent population in San Francisco. We are keen to better understand the impact of less personal reading time due to many other distractions. Mr. Gannon conducted a series of interviews with parents, students, teachers and other key stakeholders during his research. The research report will be released December 2016.
In the year ahead, the World Literacy Foundation is looking to work with low socio-economic communities in the greater Grand Rapids, Michigan and greater Atlanta, Georgia areas. Through a pilot program called “Reading Out of Poverty,” we are working to:

A. Start pop-up libraries. We've found that families who live in lower socio-economic areas have fewer books in the home and don't regularly visit a community library. So we have developed ‘pop-up libraries' in frequented spaces.

B. A Christmas giving program. One of the biggest giving times of the year is around Christmas, and we work with local organizations to help identify which children will receive a gift of two new children's books.

C. Opportunities for children to have read aloud story time.

D. Parent information sessions. We will be discussing the importance of reading aloud to their children.

We will accomplish all of these by implementing the program, Reading out of Poverty. Reading out of Poverty provides disadvantaged youth from birth to 5 years of age with programs that help build a strong foundation in literacy - so that they can succeed in education and reach their full potential. Early literacy development is vital to later academic success. Children with poor reading skills are more likely to repeat a grade, which too often sets the stage for a pattern of failure in school. Reading out of Poverty targets the critical early years to help ensure children have the language and reading skills required as they enter the school years.
Note from the CEO and Founder, Andrew Kay

What we accomplished at the World Literacy Foundation in 2015-16 would not have been possible without the support of our partners, donors, and supporters. Each year, our Annual Report affords us an opportunity to showcase our impact and to say thank you. 2015-16 was a monumental year of growth where we commenced the field-testing of the new solar panel tablet initiative, which will be a major focus for the year to come.

In America, we increased our local funding to $11,532.76, the majority of which we used to deliver literacy projects and services for children from low-income families.

Through our activities, advocacy, and collaborative partnerships, in 2015-16, the World Literacy Foundation reached over one million children, families, and adults in 22 countries. As a result, we have highlighted the importance and understanding of literacy across the globe. Additionally, thanks to your support, our geographic reach now spans Africa and Latin America.

Later in this year, we will scale up the solar panel tablets to reach more classrooms in Uganda and other ‘off the grid’ locations. Nearly 20 million classrooms across the globe don’t have access to the Internet and operate with very limited resources. The tablet is a simple solution to bring relevant and appropriate books to classrooms at a fraction of the cost of traditional methods. This project is something that has never been possible before, and it will ultimately help millions improve their lives and reach their full potential. So thank you again, and we look forward to working together to bring books, technology, and an equal chance to all.

Andrew G Kay
OUR SUPPORTERS AND THANK YOU’S

Alice Carlson PTA
The Jewish Federation of Cleveland
Pledging Foundation
Pitney Bowes Foundation
Jefferson Terrace Elementary and High School
Lewisburg Elementary
William Guy Sanders Middle and High School
Harris Road Elementary
Meadows Elementary
Marie Crowley Foundation
Ft. Gibson Public School
Amazon Smile
Student Fashion Association UC Davis
Your Cause
Financials

NORTH AMERICA WORLD LITERACY FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Six months ended December 31, 2015 &
Six months ended June 30, 2016

With
Accountant’s Compilation Report

NORTH AMERICA WORLD LITERACY FOUNDATION

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Six months ended December 31, 2015
&
Six months ended June 30, 2016

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Financial Statements:
Statements of Financial Position .................................................................................. 2
Statements of Activities .................................................................................................... 3
Notes to Financial Statements .......................................................................................... 4
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Directors
North America World Literacy Foundation
PO BOX 44
Grandville, MI 49418
United States

We have compiled the accompanying statements of financial position – cash basis of North America World Literacy Foundation (a non-profit organization) as of six months ended December 31, 2015 & six months ended June 30, 2016 and the related statements of activities – cash basis for the six months then ended.

We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or provide any assurance about whether the financial statements are in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the compilation in accordance with Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The objective of a compilation is to assist management in presenting financial information in the form of financial statements without undertaking to obtain or provide any assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures ordinarily included in financial statements prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. If the omitted disclosures were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the company's assets, liabilities, net assets, revenues and expenses. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

October 21, 2016
Louis Villameau
Louis Accounting Services

NORTH AMERICA WORLD LITERACY FOUNDATION
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CASH BASIS)

For the six months ended December 31, 2015 & six months ended June 30, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$11,532.76</td>
<td>$6,395.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td>$11,532.76</td>
<td>$6,395.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL OTHER ASSETS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>$11,532.76</td>
<td>$6,395.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS |      |      |
| Unrestricted - available for operations | 11,532.76 | 6,395.35 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | 11,532.76 | 6,395.35 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | $11,532.76 | $6,395.35 |

See accountant's Compilation report
### NORTH AMERICA WORLD LITERACY FOUNDATION

#### STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
(CASH BASIS)
For the six months ended December 31, 2015 & six months ended June 30, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>103,016.89</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Event Income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>103,016.89</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges</td>
<td>250.99</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mktg &amp; Administration</td>
<td>13,532.65</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research &amp; Evaluation</td>
<td>13,532.66</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Delivery</td>
<td>70,370.93</td>
<td>3,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>149.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>43.00</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>97,879.48</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,704.74</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,137.41</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,395.35</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,100.09</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Net Assets at End of Year | 11,532.76 | 6,395.35 |

### NORTH AMERICA WORLD LITERACY FOUNDATION

#### NOTES TO FINANCIALS STATEMENTS
(CASH BASIS)
Six months ended December 31, 2015 & Six months ended June 30, 2016

**NOTE 1 – ORGANIZATION AND MISSION**

The North America World Literacy Foundation is a non-for-profit organization incorporated in October 2012 under the Laws of the State of Michigan, USA. NAWLF is a global charity focused on eradicating illiteracy. We believe that if you teach a child to read, you change a life forever. Literacy is central to the reduction of poverty, improving health and wellbeing, and providing a pathway to further education and sustainable employment.

**NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of Accounting:** The North America World Literacy Foundation prepares its financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents:** The North America World Literacy Foundation considers all cash investments to be cash equivalents.

**Contributions:** Unconditional promises to give and contributions received are recorded as unrestricted support unless explicit donor stipulations specify how the donated assets must be used.

**Functional Allocation of Expenses:** The costs of providing the program have summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities.

See accountant’s compilation report

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*Louis Villanueva*  
Registered Tax Agent / Public Accountant  
Institute of Public Accountants  
0412 766 437/ accounting@iwmagroup.com.au  
VILLA & CO - IWM Accounting Services  
Office: 31 Rika Rd Tower, Suite 717 / 3 O'Connell Rd Melbourne Vic 3004/Australia

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Office: 31 Rika Rd Tower, Suite 717 / 3 O'Connell Rd Melbourne Vic 3004/Australia

2015-16 | Annual Report  
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REPORT OF OFFICERS

Mission of North America World Literacy Foundation

The North America World Literacy Foundation is a non-profit organization incorporated in October 2012 under the laws of the state of Michigan, USA. NAWLF is a global charity focused on eradicating illiteracy. We believe that if you teach a child to read, you change a life forever. Literacy is central to the reduction of poverty, improving health and wellbeing, and providing a pathway to further education and sustainable employment.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Outlined in the 2015-16 Annual Report

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

CONSTITUTION

North America World Literacy Foundation is a Public Charity (Identifying number 46-1201100). Tax Exempt status was granted on 03 October 2012. The Public Charity is an Association (501 (c)) under the Charitable Organizations and Solicitations Act 169 of 1975, Section 400.273 in Michigan, USA. Filing information and reporting in a calendar year.

The registered office is at PO Box 44, Grandville, MI 49468-0044

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Directors who served during the period are:

Chair: Dr Don Green (appointed 5/4/2013 and re-elected on)
Treasurer: Mrs Cathy Green (appointed 1/9/2013 and re-elected on)
Secretary: Mr Andrew Kay (appointed 1/9/2013 and re-elected on)
Counsel: Dr Julie Ruel (appointed 24 June 2015)
Counsel: Mr François Gerin-Lajoie (appointed 24 June 2015)

RESERVES

The charity retained earnings for the year ended December 2015: US $ 6,395.35
The charity retained earnings for six months ended June 2016: US $11,532.76
DIRECTORS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Directors are required to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit for that period. The Directors have agreed to adopt the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting by Charities. In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- state suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities.

By order of the Board

Andrew Kay
Secretary /Board Member
20th October 2016

Identifying number 46-1201100