

Mission

To dramatically increase the supply of effective, in-person adult English language instruction.

Problem

26.5 million US residents don't speak English. The majority of them will never learn.

In-person English as a second language (ESL) instruction changes lives

- A 2023 quasi-experimental study found that enrollees in a conventional English instruction program earned almost \$10,000 more per year than those who stayed on the waitlist.
- Besides economic gains, English proficiency is critical for receiving quality healthcare, interacting with local government, and participating in civic, social, and political institutions

But there are no spots left

- Fewer than 400k access in-person instruction
- Waitlists are years-long across the country
- We provide 72.5% less ESL instruction than in 2005

Solution

We help community organizations like churches, afterschool programs, and refugee camps launch ESL programs by adopting effective and sustainable standard operating procedures.

These procedures center around a software platform that:

- 1. Centralizes and streamlines the organizational and scheduling tasks of running a program, and
- 2. Delivers a blended-learning curriculum used inside the classroom.

By supporting existing organizations to adopt simple and tested models, we increase the capacity of community-based organizations to facilitate life-changing services for language learners.

Roadmap

September 2024: Launched an internal pilot to test standard operating procedures.

By Spring 2025: 7 university programs launched with university volunteer organizations.

By Spring 2026: 100 ESL programs hosted in CBOs and staffed by volunteer groups.

After Spring 2026: Partner with local governments to expand ESL programs in alignment with city needs and systems.

Budget

Our FY 2025 will cost \$350,000, the majority of which will go to supporting the summer team of interns and the salaries of the CEO and 1 staff software engineer.

With support from the Carnegie Corporation, Heckscher Foundation, and individual donors, we've raised nearly \$200,000 to date.