



2025
ANNUAL
REPORT

VOICES RISING



english for **NEW
BOSTONIANS**

English for New Bostonians ensures access to high-quality English classes so that adult immigrants across race, education, and migratory backgrounds can pursue their aspirations and contribute to a Commonwealth that fully values their talents and voices.

English for New Bostonians is strategically positioned as an ally to English language learners and immigrant communities, a resource to service providers, and a partner to employers, municipalities, and government agencies. ENB's solutions embrace social and economic justice as the realistic pathway to a thriving region.

Reflections from the Executive Director

This past year asked much of immigrant communities, ESOL providers, and the systems that serve newcomers. It was often shaped by uncertainty and fear, but also by courage and strong leadership. At English for New Bostonians, **we responded by deepening our commitment to justice**, strengthening partnerships, and stepping into a larger leadership role in ESOL policy and practice across Massachusetts.

We continued our work in partnership with the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants, providing English instruction to newcomers escaping violence in their home countries and living in emergency assistance shelters across the state. Building on that expertise, we began planning for the RISE program, providing immigrants who are parenting and living in unstable circumstances with English classes, information and a pathway to stability at a critical moment.

ENB leaned into our role as a convener and truth teller—which we saw as doubly important at a time when untruthful and damaging rhetoric has run rampant. Our Raising Our Voices breakfast brought together journalists, advocates, employers, and educators to examine how immigrants are portrayed in the media and why those narratives matter. This year, we also launched a new data dashboard on our website to illustrate the impact of the ESOL programs we support.

ENB achieved a major advocacy win with the City of Boston, helping to secure funds for parent English classes and, in turn, for our successful ESOL for Parents program. At the state level, ENB helped shape the MassINC report, **Massachusetts Needs an Actionable Strategy to Expand ESOL Services**, contributing to growing momentum for the Act to Promote Economic Mobility through ESOL.

Our progress is made possible by the trust of our funders, donors, board members, and partners, and by the resilience and trust of immigrants who continue to strengthen our communities. **Thank you for standing with us as we work toward a future where immigrants are welcomed, supported, and able to build a path forward.**

In solidarity,



Claudia Green
Executive Director



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Brazilian Worker Center, *Allston*

East Boston Community Council, *East Boston*

Educational Development Group, *Roxbury*

Gardner Pilot Academy, *Allston*

Gilbert Albert Community Center, *Dorchester*

Haitian Multi Service Center/ Catholic Charities,
Dorchester

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International Institute of New England, *Boston*

Jackson Mann Community Center, *Brighton*

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JVS, *Boston*

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Dorchester

Somali Development Center, *Roxbury*

Vietnamese American Civic Association, *Dorchester*

YMCA International Learning Center, *Boston*

ESOL for Parents and Caregivers

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in partnership with **Southside HeadStart ESOL Program**, *Roslindale*

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partnership with **Josiah Quincy Elementary School**,
Chinatown

Boston Public Schools
Department of Adult Education/Newcomer Assessment Center, *Roxbury*

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*July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

VOICES RISING 2025

In 2025, ENB helped Boston-area immigrants gain the English skills they need to access better jobs, support their children's educational success, and grow stronger small businesses.



1,352

42

Programs supported
by ENB across
Greater Boston

100

Tutor-volunteers
supported
ESOL students
through ENB



7

Companies where
ENB provides
English training to
employees



341

Students got jobs
(if unemployed) or
better jobs
(if employed)

117

Students worked
1:1 with ENB
career coaches

98%

of students say
their English
improved through
their ESOL class

VOICE FOR OPPORTUNITY: GLADIMIRE

When Gladimire arrived in Boston from Haiti, she brought determination and big goals for her future. What she did not yet have was the English she needed to move forward with confidence. "I spoke a little bit, but it was difficult to hear someone and understand." English quickly became the biggest barrier between Gladimire and her aspirations.

Rather than letting that barrier stop her, Gladimire enrolled in English classes supported by ENB at the Immigrant Family Services Institute. From the beginning, she saw English as a tool for opportunity. "I wanted to become a CNA." Learning English was the key to making that goal possible. Through her ESOL classes, Gladimire gained more than vocabulary and grammar. She learned how to communicate with her employer, and how to advocate for herself.

Like many immigrants, Gladimire has felt fear and uncertainty amid a shifting national climate. She was afraid to walk short distances and felt unsure about what the future might hold. But, the classroom became a place of connection. Gladimire describes her class as a community where she found friendship and encouragement. "My teacher is my friend. My classmates are my friends, too... Don't stay at home. Come to the class."

Today, Gladimire is working in healthcare, continuing her education, and moving steadily toward her goals. She understands that her voice matters. "I am raising my voice for my community. For my children in the future."

“

I was scared
to go to work.
I was scared to
go to the store.
**My ESOL class
gave me hope.
It gave me joy.**

”

VOICE FOR LEADERSHIP GROWTH: ALPHA CHEMICAL

Investing in English language learning at work pays off, for employers and employees alike. ENB is a trusted partner that, through customized English learning, strengthens communication, supports retention, and creates clear pathways for employee advancement.

AlphaChemical has worked with ENB to tailor programming to meet company needs, and has seen immediate benefits. "We've definitely seen an improvement in communication with the employees on the production line," said CEO Elise Dauksevicz. Clearer communication has also opened doors for advancement. One employee started in production, enrolled in English class, and then earned a promotion into a higher-responsibility role coordinating across teams.

"The setup was seamless," Elise said, praising ENB's flexibility in scheduling classes around a demanding production environment. Her advice to other employers: "I wouldn't hesitate to do it."

AlphaChemical HR Specialist Carlos Fernandes has seen workers become more comfortable speaking up for themselves and sharing ideas—an important shift in a multilingual workplace. Engagement has grown so strong that employees now help shape the classes themselves, suggesting topics and giving presentations.

Carlos sees workplace ESOL as a retention strategy in a tight labor market. The classes foster goodwill and show employees they are valued. Speaking as an immigrant himself, Carlos underscored the stakes: "English is crucial. Without it, we might find opportunities—but not the good ones."

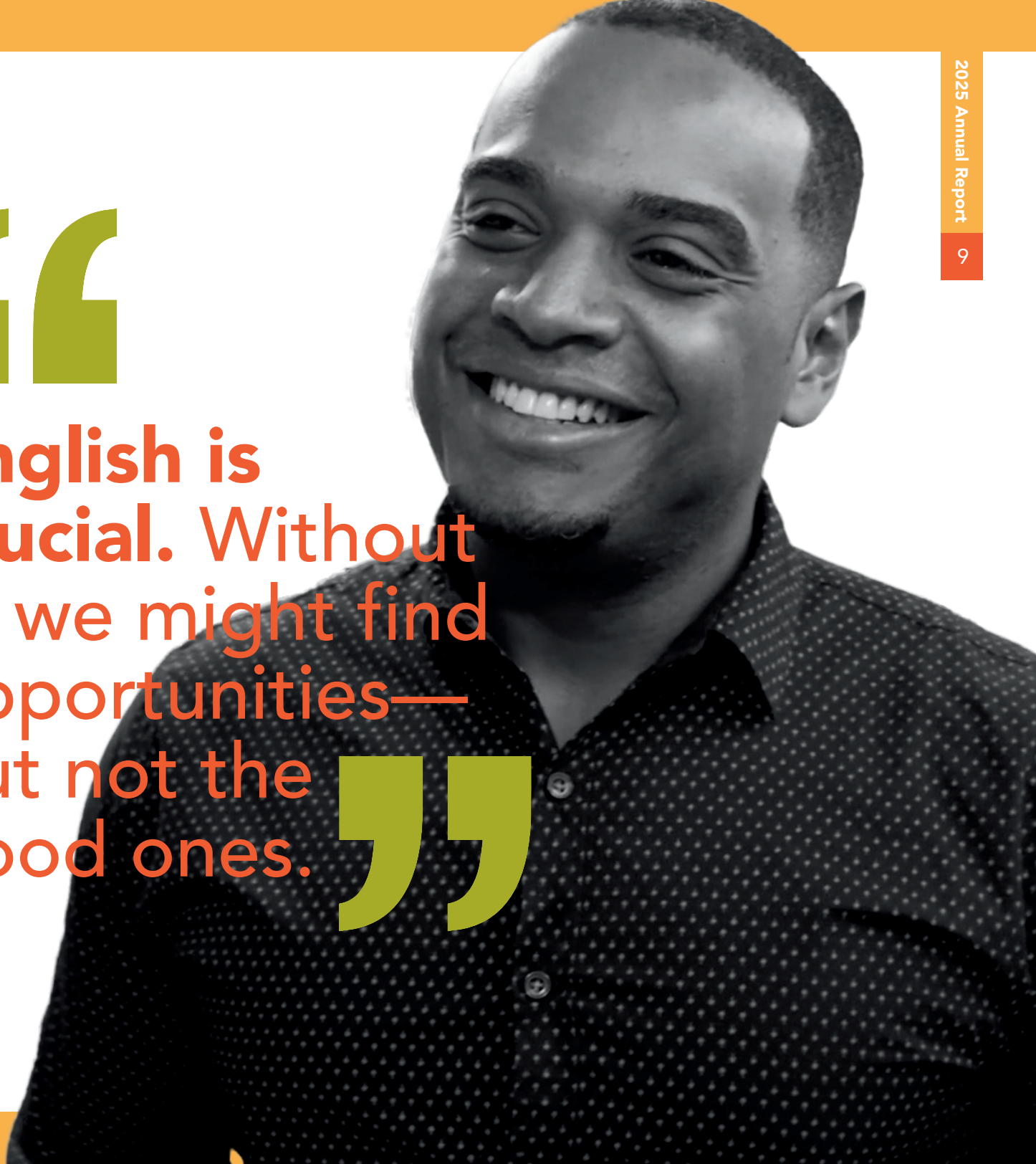
With ENB as a partner, employers like AlphaChemical gain a more effective, engaged workforce, while employees gain skills that lead to promotions and opportunity.

It's not just language training. It's workforce development that works—English Works Business Services.

“

English is crucial. Without it, we might find opportunities—but not the good ones.

”



VOICE FOR SERVICE: SHERI

After 27 years as a nonprofit executive director, Sheri Aldin believed retirement didn't mean stepping away from service. It meant finding a new way to give back. "At my agency, we always talked about our responsibility to make the world a better place, even just a little bit. I did that with my children, throughout my career, and now through volunteering."

Sheri found her way to ENB. With a strong background in education, Sheri has supported ENB classrooms in emergency shelters, workplaces, and community-based settings. She brings patience, warmth, and a deep respect for the students' determination. She is continually inspired by their commitment—balancing multiple jobs, family responsibilities, and the challenge of learning English in an unfamiliar environment. Her proudest moment as a volunteer is seeing a student improve each time they meet in the classroom. "That is powerful."

For Sheri, volunteering is about more than language instruction. "The most important thing I can do is show students that there are Americans who care and want to support them. Relationships matter. I've been able to develop relationships and help students feel that there are caring people here, even though it doesn't feel that way right now."

"I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity. Volunteering allows you to connect with students and help in a small but meaningful way. It's truly a give-back experience, and giving back feels good."

“

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”



VOICE FOR HOPE: IRYNA

Iryna arrived in the U.S. in September 2022 with her son and their dog, fleeing the war in Ukraine. Before the invasion, she worked as a journalist and newspaper editor in the lively city Odessa. "I loved my job. It was full of life and energy. Every day brought something new: events, stories, and people. One day I was writing stories for my newspaper—and the next day, the story was war."

Everything changed overnight. Explosions replaced routine, and fear replaced peace. Determined to protect her son, Iryna made the painful decision to leave her home behind. When they arrived in the U.S., they had almost nothing but their documents, a few belongings, and hope for safety.

Rebuilding life was not easy. Without English, even simple tasks felt overwhelming. Making a doctor's appointment, communicating with her son's school, or shopping for groceries became daily challenges. Once, when asked, "How are you?" in her nervousness, she replied, "I'm Ukraine."

Her turning point came through an ENB-funded ESOL class at the YMCA International Learning Center, which opened doors to new opportunities. "Those classes helped me so much—not only with grammar, but also with confidence. We practiced interviews and writing résumés. They reminded me that starting again is possible at any age."

Today, Iryna proudly works as a practice assistant at a medical office in Newton and is pursuing a new dream: "I'm working toward becoming a nurse because I know what it feels like to be lost and afraid, and I want to help others feel safe and cared for—just like people once helped me."

“

Those classes reminded me that **starting again is possible** at any age.

”

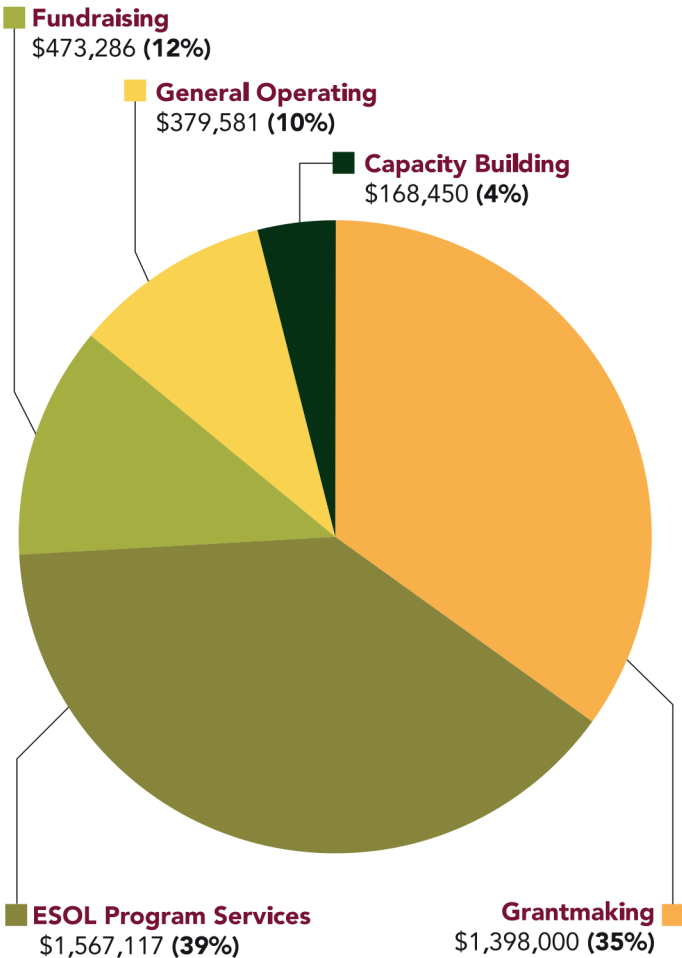
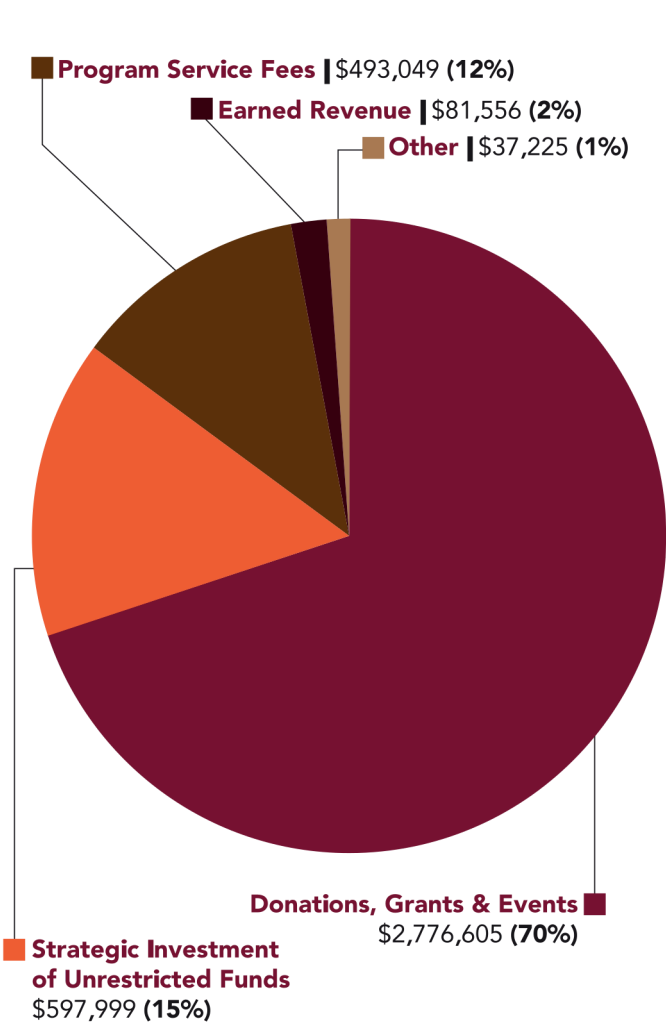


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July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Revenue & Support: **\$3,986,434**

Expenses: **\$3,986,434**



Thank you for your support!

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likeLanguage of Food!

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