

**Is Your U.S. Representative a Friend of Adult Literacy?
---Invite Your House Member to Get Involved!**

<http://bit.ly/z71DHH/>

Whether your U.S. Representative is a champion of adult literacy or new to adult literacy issues, invite the Member of Congress or his or her education staff to attend the upcoming House Adult Literacy Caucus Briefing!

February 8, 2012

1539 Longworth House Office Building

2:45 pm --- 4:00 pm

Building Our Competitive Edge:

How Adult Education Leverages Multi-System Partnerships for Student Success

Open to all Members of Congress in the House and Senate, Congressional staff, and advocates, the briefing provides an opportunity to learn how adult education leverages partnerships for student success. Whether or not your U.S. Representative is a member of the House Adult Literacy Caucus, call today and extend a personal invitation to attend.

As you may know, Congressional staff change positions frequently. New staff, or staff new to our issues, may have adult education in their portfolio, but they may not have the latest information on the needs, challenges and success stories related to adult education. Congressional staff educate and make recommendations to their bosses about positions and votes that impact many aspects of adult education. That's why we must make every effort to keep adult education fresh in their minds with the latest information and innovative practices. And we need your help!

Request: Call your U.S. Representative's and Senators' Washington, DC offices.
Contact Info:

<http://bit.ly/CallInfo>

(Act now through NCL's Take Action page on Facebook for greater impact:

<http://on.fb.me/kH9kQj>)

Message: Request to speak to the staff person who handles education issues for the Member. Ask them to attend the House Adult Literacy Caucus briefing and bring the Member of Congress if he/she has time.

Talking points:

- * This is a great opportunity to learn about the latest solutions in adult education.
- * Panelists will discuss their successes and challenges in leveraging partnerships that maximize student success.
- * Offer to email or fax this Dear Colleague letter with the briefing details:

<http://bit.ly/xJJEYK>

- * The education staff should RSVP by emailing Stephanie Gregg at sgregg@wpllc.net .

Briefing Details:

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At least 30 million adults in the U.S. do not have the education or English language skills needed to compete for today's jobs. These adults commonly turn to adult education programs to boost their basic skills and obtain employment or prepare for further education. Due to an increasing demand for postsecondary credentials and higher-level skills, adult education programs are developing effective partnerships with community colleges, community-based organizations, and the workforce system to ensure their students can earn the credentials and gain the skills they need more quickly and efficiently.

Join the House Adult Literacy Caucus to learn about model programs that have developed partnerships to enhance their adult basic education and English language learning services to be more competitive in a changing economy.

Featured Model Programs

**Barry Shaffer, Minnesota State Director of Adult Education and Co-director,
Minnesota FastTRAC Initiative, Minnesota Department of Education**

FastTRAC's innovative approach (<http://www.mnfasttrac.org/approach.html>) helps educationally underprepared adults succeed in well-paying careers by integrating basic skills education and career-specific training in fields where new skills are in high demand.

**Rita Daniels, Executive Director, Literacy Volunteers and Advocates (LVA),
Washington, DC**

LVA (<http://www.lvanca.org/>) collaborates with agencies and organizations---such as GED preparation, employment services, job readiness training, and re-entry programs---to help adults accelerate through literacy levels and achieve their literacy goals. Literacy Volunteers and Advocates is a community-based organization in the District of Columbia that works exclusively with adults below the 6th grade equivalency level.

Tom DuBois, Director of New Initiatives, Instituto del Progreso Latino

Mr. DuBois will share how the Instituto del Progreso Latino (<http://www.idpl.org/index.htm>), through its career pathway programs in healthcare, manufacturing, and construction, partners with various organizations to bridge limited English-proficient individuals into college advanced certificate programs. These programs prepare and place students into careers as Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), programmers of computer numerical control machines (CNCs), and certified experts in Building Energy Technologies (BET).

RSVP to: Stephanie Gregg at sgregg@wpllc.net