



Literacy Council of Carroll County

225 Clifton Blvd. Westminster, MD 21784 410-857-0766 September, 2019

www.literacyccmd.org

National Adult Education Week September 22 to 28, 2019



U.S. Adult Education Facts 2018

From www.worlded.org

Need:

In the U.S., over 40 million adults have low literacy, including 20% of adults with a high school diploma. The U.S. ranked 21st in numeracy and 16th in literacy out of 24 countries in a 2013 assessment of adults' skills. Two-thirds of U.S. adults scored at the two lowest levels of proficiency in solving problems in technology-rich environments. Yet, the publicly funded adult education system is able to serve only around 2 million young and older adults per year.

Providers:

Adult education programs operate as free standing organizations or part of community colleges, libraries, unions or faith-based organizations. Instruction is by mostly part-time teachers and volunteer tutors.

Funding:

The national, average annual expenditure per adult learner was \$1,021 in 2017. By contrast, the, average annual per-pupil expenditure on public elementary and secondary education nationally is over \$13,814.

WHO ARE THE ADULT LEARNERS? WHO ARE OUR STUDENTS?

Working Poor or Those Looking for Work:

64% of adults with low academic skills are employed. They earn low wages and lack the preparation to succeed in postsecondary education and most work related training.

Youth:

Every year, over 2 million students drop out of high school in the U.S. They join the 5.5 million youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither enrolled in school nor participating in the labor market. When they decide to complete their education, they enroll in adult education or look for tutors so they can take the GED.

Immigrants:

Immigrants make up for the decline in the U.S. born workforce as baby boomers retire. By 2030, it is projected that nearly one in five US workers will be an immigrant. However, nearly 20 million U.S. adults have limited English proficiency. English instruction is critical.



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ADULT EDUCATION IS AN ECONOMIC IMPERATIVE FOR INDIVIDUALS, FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND THE NATION.

The U.S. is falling behind other countries and cannot compete economically without improving the skills of its workforce. High school graduates and dropouts will find themselves largely left behind in the coming decade as employer demand for workers with postsecondary credentials continues to surge. As well, basic digital skills commonly taught in adult education programs is the fastest growing category of skills in demand by employers.

Full-time workers with a high school diploma earn almost \$10,000 more per year than those without a diploma. If they have some college but no degree their median earnings are \$13,000 more at \$35,000 which increases to \$40,000 for people with an Associate's degree.

By 2020, 65% of all U.S. jobs will require education or training beyond high school, yet, 38% of the U.S. workforce - 59 million out of 166 million adults - has only a high school education or less.

One in four working families in our country is low income, and one in every five children lives in poverty. Studies have concluded that programs designed to boost the academic achievement of children from low income neighborhoods would be more successful if they simultaneously provided education to parents.

A mother's education level is the greatest determinant of her children's future academic success, outweighing other factors, such as neighborhood and family income.

In the U.S., more than in most other countries, 60% of those with lower academic skills feel that they have no influence on public decisions and the political process.

Federal, state and local governments stand to gain \$2.5 billion in tax revenue and reduced expenses for every 400,000 adults who earn a high school diploma.

**This is why we are here.
Tutor training will be on Saturday,
September 7, 2019
Call if you are interested in attending.**

Congratulations To Jo Donaldson

Jo Donaldson who is our Board of Director's secretary has been re-elected vice president of the Writer's Association. The Writer's Association works to support local authors and offers prizes in various writing competitions in Carroll County. Jo has been a writer all of her life and is the author of several books and articles.



**Reminder:
Board meeting
September 12, 2019**